TWENTY-FIVE HISTORIC YEARS

Massachusetts Horticultural Society

LIBRARY

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MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY BOSTON

October, 1976

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Twenty-Five Historic Years

The Committee on Lectures and Publications has the honor to present herewith "Twenty-Five Historic Years," which constitutes the history of the Society for the last quarter of a century.

Boston, Massachusetts, December 1, 1954
Stedman Buttrick, Chairman

Horticultural Hall

TWENTY-FIVE HISTORIC YEARS

HOW AN EXHIBITION, A MAGAZINE AND A LIBRARY BROUGHT NEW LIFE TO A FAMOUS INSTITUTION

The history of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society from March, 1929

BY

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FOREWORD

THIS book is more than a history. It is in substance the story of a unique, three-way experiment and what resulted from it. Consider these facts: Twenty-five years ago no other Society like this one had ever attempted to publish and circulate a national magazine. No other Library such as ours had sent its books to every corner of the land. No other horticultural organization had established an annual flower show of the proportions and with the variety of the one in Boston. Here is an account of the manner in which these divergent enterprises were developed, blended and unified until the Massachusetts Horticultural Society had come to occupy the commanding position it enjoys today. It is a tale which takes the reader through a great depression and a world war, revealing the manner in which the many grave problems presented were met and solved. It deals with the personalities of the able men who guarded the Society's financial stability and guided its destinies in other ways. It will stir many memories among our older members and create a better understanding of the Society among those who are younger. It is not dry or statistical. I am sure it will be read with interest.

Arno H. Nehrling
Executive Secretary

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INTRODUCTION

SOME 125 years ago a few Boston men began holding occasional meetings in the down-town district to consider forming a Horticultural Society. Most of them lived in outlying sections, where they had gardens or even farms. Their discussions came to a head on February 24, 1829, when a well attended preliminary meeting was held. The actual organization took place on March 17. One hundred and twenty-five years ago Boston had a population of but 60,000 persons and had been incorporated as a city only seven years. Pennsylvania already had a Horticultural Society—formed two years before—still a prosperous and influential organization. It is the only existent Horticultural Society which antedates this one, but it was not incorporated as early.

There was a keen desire on the part of those interested in the Boston Society to exhibit the products of their gardens, although the amount of material available was exceedingly limited compared with that of today. The Concord grape had not been originated at that time. Neither had such pears as Clapp's Favorite and Dana Hovey. The only squash known was a crookneck, and tomatoes were looked upon as poisonous weeds. Many of the flowers now in common cultivation were undreamed of then.

Plant hunters were already at work, however, both in the Far East and on this continent, and for the next half a century a flood of new plant material poured in upon gardeners, much of it being exhibited for the first time in the halls of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Robert Fortune was sending from China such valuable subjects as *Weigela rosea,* Fortune's yellow rose, *Anemone Japonica, Forsythia viridissima,* the white wistaria and the common bleeding heart, *Dielytra spectabilis.* This last named plant, which did not reach America until about 1850,

was exhibited by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society two years later, when it created little less than a sensation.

General H. A. S. Dearborn of Roxbury was the first President of the newly organized Society, which was ambitious from the first and soon found itself the owner of a cemetery and a test garden, both in Cambridge. The cemetery was Mount Auburn, where now sleep many of the country's most illustrious dead. It was the first public cemetery in America and formed the pattern for all those which have come since. Before that time cemeteries had been laid out in the shadow of a church or within the confines of a city.

The management of the cemetery soon became a major financial undertaking, however, seriously interfering with the Society's more normal activities. After a few years, therefore, a separation was made, but with the provision that one-fourth of the receipts from lots sold should accrue to the parent organization. That very favorable arrangement has been continued until the present day, although it cannot be expected to provide much revenue in the future, as it does not apply to lots in parts of the cemetery more recently acquired. The payments received from the Mount Auburn Cemetery Association were permitted to accumulate as a fund until the amount had reached $55,053.52. Since then they have been used against annual expenses. The test garden was soon abandoned, too, as it was becoming a source of contention, both as to management and the disposition of the garden's products.

Exhibitions were held almost from the beginning in such small halls as could be found, with occasional public meetings in Faneuil Hall. However, by 1845 the Society was bold enough to erect a $40,000 building on School Street—the first Horticultural Hall. Stores on the ground floor helped defray the expenses and this was true when the second Horticultural Hall was built. Located on Tremont street, this was a much larger and more ornate structure, costing $240,000. It soon gained fame by reason of three huge granite statues of Ceres, Pomona and Flora, which adorned the front of the building and the ultimate fate of which has long been a subject of debate. In the meantime the Society, seeking larger exhibition space, had conducted three Flower Shows in a great tent on Boston Common. These Shows proved

very popular, but the constant threat of rain led to their discontinuance.

The Tremont Street building served the Society for thirty-five years from 1863, but after a time there came a lack of exhibition space in the second-floor hall. Then, as a forerunner of what was to come in later years, the Society went to Mechanics Building for a Show in 1887, the American Pomological Society cooperating.

At the same time the Librarian began to complain that all his shelf space was being used up. The Trustees began looking around. A petition to the legislature for permission to buy land in the Back Bay was rejected. An energetic effort was made to obtain permission to erect a new Horticultural Hall within the confines of Boston Common but the city council refused to agree to such a plan.

Then, some years later, the Society again cast its eyes in the direction of the Back Bay. The present site was purchased, albeit with much grumbling on the part of members who thought it was too far out in the country. Soon the third Horticultural Hall came into being—as handsome a building as the city can boast, admirably situated and rivaled only by the new Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society in London.

In that first one hundred years the Society had twenty-eight Presidents. In the quarter of a century following it has had but three. The Society has been active in promoting every phase of horticulture. It has assisted in the introduction of new flowers, fruits and vegetables by the hundreds. It had much to do with establishing the nation-wide movement for children's gardens. It has contributed consistently to the horticultural literature of the country. Indeed, its history is interwoven with that of all American horticulture.

The Society's work was badly handicapped by World War I and in 1923 it had only a thousand members who had paid their dues. A ten dollar initiation fee was the stumbling block at that time. It had been imposed in lieu of increased annual dues, which were pegged at two dollars by the Society's charter, but it was a move that had defeated its own ends. With this ten dollar charge removed, which soon came about, and with a more aggressive

policy, embracing a great Spring Exhibition, the newly-purchased magazine *Horticulture* and a greatly broadened Library service, there came a rapid acceleration of all the Society's activities. So began an era of growth and progress beyond anything the Society had known before and of it this writer can happily say, "All of which I saw and a part of which I was."

1929 — YEAR OF MIXED EMOTIONS

ALBERT E. BENSON'S admirable history of the first 100 years of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society closed with a graphic description of the great Centennial Exhibition at Mechanics Building in March of 1929. The history of the succeeding quarter century must begin therefore in the late Spring of that year. The Centennial Exhibition was so great a success that the sum of $30,000 was set aside by the Trustees as a special fund to be drawn upon in the event that a future show suffered a loss.

One hundred special Centennial Medals struck from a die modeled by John Paramino of Boston were awarded during and after the Show, the first one going to President Burrage.

Centennial Medals were sent to T. A. Havemeyer and Frederick Newbold, President and Secretary respectively of the Horticultural Society of New York, and to John C. Wister, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The Society noted with regret the death of James Boyd, President of the Pennsylvania Society, whose relations with the Massachusetts Society had been most cordial, and who was known as a skilled amateur horticulturist, having a special interest in peonies.

Before the end of the year satisfaction at the success of the Show was tempered by the passing of Thomas H. Roland, who, more than any one else, had been responsible for the decision to hold the Show. Mr. Roland had been a Trustee for twenty-one years and was always active in the Society's affairs. He came to this country from England as a young man, located in Nahant and developed an extensive greenhouse business, often being called the best plantsman in America. He had great influence in horticultural circles throughout the country, was a member of many organizations and highly successful as an exhibitor, especially when showing cypripedium orchids, of which he was very

fond. Ernest H. Wilson wrote of him in the 1930 Year Book as follows: "Profound of thought, a stickler for law and principle, Thomas Roland was sagacious and courteous, and as a rule won over those opposed to his views. He will be remembered as a great plantsman, a wise counsellor, a loyal and generous friend."

Mr. Wilson, another Englishman, and Mr. Roland were close friends and liked nothing better than to spend an evening together at Locke-Ober's restaurant talking British politics. They supported opposing parties and the debate waxed heated at times, although it always ended with a laugh, a handshake and the best of good will.

Mr. Roland was conservative by nature and protested vigorously to the Secretary because he had assigned the basement room to the garden clubs when they first began to exhibit at Horticultural Hall. The Secretary could not well retreat, but the garden clubs did so well that their critic was delighted. Soon he became their warm champion and the next year they exhibited on the street floor. Mr. Roland was a charter member of the Horticultural Club of Boston. Death came to this unusual man on December 11, when he was in his 67th year. The funeral was held in his greenhouse at Nahant and was attended by prominent men and women from many parts of the country.

At the inaugural meeting in January President Burrage had given the Society the sum of $1,250 to establish a porch competition. It was stipulated that the porch should be constructed during the year as an addition to a dwelling already standing and that it must overlook a garden. The first award was made to Ben: Perley Poore Moseley of Ipswich for an attractive porch overlooking both a garden and the sea, and surmounted by a miniature beacon light, making possible the enjoyment of the garden at night.

The George Robert White Medal of Honor for 1929 went abroad, being awarded to Miss Gertrude Jekyll, V.M.H., whose influence on gardening had grown world-wide in the course of her eighty-six years.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal was awarded to Charles Sander for his work in hybridizing woody plants. Mr. Sander was Professor Charles S. Sargent's superintendent for many years and a man of great skill as a gardener. The Thomas Roland Medal

was given to Frank R. Pierson for his exceptional skill as a horticulturist. He was the owner of an extensive florist establishment in Tarrytown, N. Y.

It was voted at the annual meeting in 1929 to consolidate the George Robert White, Jackson Dawson and Thomas Roland Medal committees and a single committee has continued to act since that time.

Garden awards were as follows:

A Gold Medal to Mrs. Gustavus D. Parker, for her estate at Wianno.
A Silver Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Harry T. Hayward, for their estate at Franklin.
A Silver Medal to Mrs. L. Carteret Fenno, for her wild garden at Rowley.
A Bronze Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Pennell, Cohasset, for a small Italian garden.
Garden Certificates to Paul Frost of Cambridge, and to Mrs. Frederick Hussey of Salem.

A $500 Gold Cup offered in the name of the Society was awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Burrage at the Autumn Flower Show for a magnificent group of stove and greenhouse flowering and foliage plants.

Nathaniel T. Kidder, Chairman of the Library Committee, reported to the Trustees in June that Mr. Benson had completed the history of the Society. Printing was finished in December and distribution began at once. Two thousand five hundred copies were printed. This book is a handsome piece of work with excellent illustrations and a total of 500 pages. Copies are still available as this is written at the price of one dollar.

Samuel J. Goddard of Framingham was made a Trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Roland. James Methven was elected a Trustee at the annual meeting.

A somewhat unexpected result of transferring the Spring Flower Show to Mechanics Building was a sharp falling off in the number of books borrowed for reading at home. Soon after the Show, however, the Librarian became normally busy again. The Library added 282 volumes in 1929, making a total of about 25,000 books and bound periodicals on the shelves. In Novem-

ber the Librarian, Miss Dorothy S. Manks, was sent to Washington to study the methods being followed in the Library of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The repairing of rare books, begun in 1928 with Miss Irene M. Tilden in charge, was continued in 1929 and was to go on for many years. Indeed, is still going on as this is written. An unexpected discovery was made in the course of work on Brunfels' Herbarum Vivae Eicones. The volume had stood on the shelves for years without receiving special attention. Unusual panelled depressions in the board covers aroused Miss Tilden's curiosity and led to the bringing to light of the very old and probably original leather sides. The book itself, just 425 years old, is one of the best examples of 16th century plant books, and the early binding adds to both the interest and the financial value of this copy.

The necrology list for the year came as a shock, with the loss of twenty-five life members and forty annual members. Special mention must be made of the death of T. D. Hatfield, superintendent for Henry Sargent Hunnewell in Wellesley. Mr. Hatfield was a very able gardener and a skilled hybridizer. The Hatfield yew came from him, as did the Louisa Hunnewell azalea. He served for many years as a judge at the Society's shows.

The number of life members who passed away focussed attention on the fact that life members were being lost to the Society faster than they were being replaced. At the time, the total membership included only 829 life members, whereas as many as 300 life members had been added in a single year in the old days. However, in those days the list of annual members was small. Growth began when the iniation fee of ten dollars was removed in the early days of Mr. Burrage's administration, the only requirement after that being the payment of the regular annual fee of two dollars. The membership increased rather rapidly then, but not until 1929 were as many as 1244 new names added to the roster in a single year. At the end of 1929 the total membership had reached 5,652.

It was pleasant to find the Royal Horticultural Society in London recognizing the anniversary celebration of the Massachu-

setts organization with an engraved salutation which read as follows:

To the President and Council of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society;

In the name of and on behalf of the Royal Horticultural Society, we desire to send greetings and congratulations to our friends and colleagues of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society on the occasion of the celebration of its centenary. We venture to express the belief that this occasion is a significant mark in the progress of horticulture and the hope that the Society will ever prosper and extend its influence for the benefit of mankind.

The balance sheet at the end of the year showed a total income of $88,928.07. Total expenditures were $50,248.31. The actual profit on the year's operations was $38,268.30. There was a loss of $1,441.51 on the Autumn Show. *Horticulture* had a loss of $411.46. A balance of $8,268.30 was transferred to the earned income account. As noted, $30,000 had previously been set aside for the establishment of a Show Insurance Fund.

These figures are interesting because they are very much greater than those reported at any previous meeting, due, of course, to the great Centennial Exhibition. They did not continue on this level.

1930—A PRINCELY GIFT AND A TRAGEDY

ALBERT C. BURRAGE began his tenth term as President of the Society at the inaugural meeting January 13, 1930, having been chosen for this office more often than any previous incumbent. The pertinent way in which he presented Society problems to the members and the lucid manner in which he explained current situations caused his annual addresses to be anticipated with interest. At this meeting he discussed rather frankly certain matters which had been on his mind for some time. Among other things he said:

"Some of us, during the past ten years that I have been a Trustee, have had one goal in mind: to live to see the day when it would be acknowledged that this Society is truly representative, not only of the district in which it is situated, but also of the principal horticultural interests of the state.

"Just as we have altered our By-Laws to force into the Board some new blood each year, so we ought to see, somehow, that the same plan will be applied to committees and judges, lest we fall into ruts and discourage the younger generation who also wish honors and can do good work."

After thanking certain members of the Board and various employes for what they had accomplished in the year just over, Mr. Burrage continued as follows:

"I hope for the day when every committeeman will be present at the beginning of the meeting, and not delay his fellow members.

"I hope for the day when every Trustee, unless prevented by illness, will attend every meeting of the Board of Trustees.

"I hope for the day when *Horticulture* will have the courage to refuse to print any advertisement or notice of any horticultural product or plant which its editors believe exaggerated, untrue or misleading.

"I hope for the day when the writers of thoughtful and helpful articles in *Horticulture* will be as highly paid as the authors of such articles by any other horticultural magazine in the world.

"I hope for the day when every exhibitor, in simple justice to his co-exhibitors, to the judges and to the Society, will have his exhibits absolutely ready at the hour set for the clearing of the hall, so that exhibits can be seen while they are perfectly fresh.

"I hope for the day when the vegetable and fruit growers will show their best products — as they did 50 years ago — and when, after such showing, they will feel repaid for coming, both by the visitors and by the prizes they win.

"I hope for the day when each Spring we shall see great clusters of blooms of flowering crabs, covering acres along the railroads of this state.

"I hope for the day very soon when we shall have constantly on the road in the open season under an assistant Librarian, a traveling horticultural library of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in a large, low automobile truck containing a really large, live, working and consulting Library of horticultural books going from one town to another where such libraries do not and cannot exist, stopping for a few days to give people an opportunity to consult the Library."

The changes in the By-Laws to which the President referred had been made after several meetings of a special committee of the Trustees to consider this action. The changes required that the annual meeting should be held the first Monday in May at 3 P.M. and that the Officers and Trustees elected should take office immediately, the inaugural meeting of former years being given up. They provided for the election of a President to serve one year, two Vice Presidents to serve two years but to be elected alternately, the junior becoming senior at the beginning of his second year, the former senior becoming junior again if reelected. Five Trustees were to be elected each year with at least one new member elected to the Board at each annual meeting, thus bringing a new face and perhaps more than one to the Trustees' table each Spring. Nominations were to be made by a committee consisting of those Trustees who had more than one but less than two years to serve.[1]

That change in the By-Laws which combined the annual meeting and the inaugural meeting and fixed the date as the first

[1] As this committee comes into being automatically and as the expiration of the term of each Trustee is indicated in the Year Book, it becomes easy to determine the personnel of the next Nominating Committee.

Monday in May was adopted largely through the efforts of Mr. Wilson, it being his last major contribution to the good of the Society, as his untimely death came later in the year. Under the old plan the Exhibition Committee, which arranged the great Spring Flower Show, was likely to have its membership changed the first of January. This meant that one committee might make up the schedule and perfect the other arrangements for the Show, while a different committee, in part at least, might be faced with the task of carrying out decisions which it had not had a part in formulating. Under the amended By-Laws the committee appointed immediately after the annual meeting would be able to see the Spring Show through.

At this meeting a letter from the President, Albert C. Burrage, was read by the Treasurer, John S. Ames, offering the Society the sum of $50,000, the income from $30,000 of this amount to be used exclusively for the purchase of books and pamphlets relating directly or indirectly to horticulture. The income from the amount remaining was to be used exclusively for the purchase of a Gold Vase to be awarded by the Trustees of the Society at a meeting in December of each year for the most outstanding exhibit in any of the Shows of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society held during the year.

No sooner had the applause occasioned by Mr. Burrage's princely gift died away than it was rekindled by Mr. Ames when he read another letter, this one from William N. Craig, offering the sum of $2,500 to be used for increasing interest in lilies, the income to be expended for premiums, lectures or for recognizing in some suitable manner the work of hybridists and collectors, as well as for good culture in garden or greenhouse.

With business conditions poor, the Trustees decided to hold the 1930 Spring Show in Horticultural Hall, with the garden clubs occupying the Lecture Hall. All the halls were well filled with exhibits and the attendance was sufficiently large to give a profit of $10,404.89.

Following this Show the Trustees took important action on a matter which had long been discussed by the private gardeners —the awards which they should receive at the various exhibitions. What had come to them in the past as a reward for the extra

work required of them had depended on the generosity or fairness of their employers or on what the Prize Committee specifically voted them. Henceforth they were to be rewarded on the basis of the awards to their employers. Thus they were to know in advance what to expect from the Society if the exhibits they set up were awarded cups or medals. The details were to be printed in the schedule, and the compensation to the gardeners by this arrangement was to be in cash. The plan was satisfactory to employers and gardeners alike, but it increased somewhat the Society's appropriation for prizes.[2]

Loring Underwood, who became a Trustee in 1927, passed away January 13, at the age of 55. Mr. Underwood was a well known landscape architect, an author and lecturer, and an active representative of his profession on the Board of Trustees. Joseph E. Chandler was elected a Trustee to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Underwood's death.

Dr. Wilson's tragic death and that of his wife came on Wednesday, October 15, when his automobile skidded and plunged over a forty-foot embankment near the city of Worcester. The couple were returning from a visit to their daughter Mrs. Muriel Slate at Geneva, N. Y., where Professor Slate is connected with the State Experimental Station. A double funeral was held the following Sunday in Trinity Church, Boston, with a large attendance of prominent men and women. The bodies were cremated at Forest Hills Cemetery and the ashes interred in Mt. Royal Cemetery in Montreal, Canada, of which Dr. Wilson's close friend, W. Ormiston Roy, was in charge.

Dr. Wilson was born in England in 1876, educated at Kew, and spent some twenty years of his life traveling in China, Japan, Formosa, Korea, South Africa, Australia, India and other countries in search of plant material or on various scientific missions. All except his first two trips to China were made in the interest of the Arnold Arboretum. He was assistant to Professor Charles S. Sargent and succeeded him as the executive in charge of the Arnold Arboretum.

Dr. Wilson was very active in the affairs of the Massachusetts

[2] The details of this plan, still in effect, will be found in the Society's Rule Book, available to all.

Horticultural Society, being Chairman of the Exhibition Committee and the Committee on Lectures and Publications. He was Advisory Editor of *Horticulture* and contributed frequently to its columns. His knowledge of plant material was profound and based largely on personal observation. His memory was almost uncanny and his ability to interpret scientific matters in the language of the layman gave his books and magazine articles a human touch missing in the writings of many scientists. Many awards had come to Dr. Wilson in recognition of his services, among them the Victoria Medal of Honour, the Veitch Memorial Medal, the George Robert White Medal of Honor, the Geoffrey St. Hilaire Gold Medal and the Rhododendron Society's Cup.

Dr. Wilson, who liked to be called "Keeper" of the Arnold Arboretum, using an English appellation, was often referred to as "Chinese" Wilson because of the long years he spent in the Chinese hinterlands. Some of his adventures, including his discovery of the Regal Lily at the expense of a broken leg, are recorded in his books, but he was too modest to indulge in heroics. His books contribute splendidly to horticultural literature but unfortunately have not had the circulation they deserve. Some of them might well be reprinted. Dr. Wilson was a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an honorary M.A. of Harvard University and as recently as the previous June had been given the D.Sc. degree by Trinity College, Hartford, Conn. He ranked high among the plant hunters of all time, but he was a scientist, too, and an excellent administrator.

William Penn Rich, for twenty-one years, until 1923, Secretary and Librarian of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, died Sunday, November 1, at his home in Chelsea. Mr. Rich was a member of the New England Botanical Club and much interested in the school garden work fostered by the Horticultural Society. For a year after his resignation Mr. Rich came to the Hall regularly to help the new Secretary in picking up the threads of the Society's activities. Suitable resolutions on his death were adopted by the Board of Trustees and spread on the records.

In the course of the year the Library staff began the work of indexing certain magazines to make possible easier access to valuable information which otherwise might remain unused. Mr.

Kidder, then Chairman of the Library Committee, felt that the Library had undertaken nothing so ambitious or so fundamental in a quarter of a century.

Fred A. Wilson of Nahant was a Trustee of the Society for several years and the Year Book of 1930 contained a remarkable paper written by him entitled "The Influence of Certain Economic Plants" which has often been reread and commented on. This Year Book also contained a paper, "Mutations and Variations in the Gladiolus" by Eugene N. Fischer. It was illustrated with twelve drawings by Mr. Fischer, who was an artist, and received much attention. Mr. Fischer, a modest, retiring man, was an exhibitor for many years.

At the 1930 Gladiolus Show the first award from the William N. Craig Fund was made, the recipient being Mrs. E. V. Hartford of Newport, R. I., for a splendid exhibit of lilies staged by her gardener, Joseph Winsock.

Mrs. Robert Stone, wife of one of the Trustees, began offering a prize through the Society in 1930 as an incentive to the making of back-yard gardens in a poor section of the city not far from Horticultural Hall. The prize, $100, was in memory of Galen L. Stone. The Secretary and his assistant, Paul Frese, gave much attention to this project, collaborating with the Boston Tuberculosis Association and the Better Homes Association. The neighborhood in which the work was started might be called a slum area. Narrow alleys through which trucks could not pass were cluttered with refuse and back yards were piled high with material which should have been carted away but which remained as a dangerous nuisance.

The transformation brought about even the first year was astonishing. Many tenants found a way to clean up their yards and to plant them with annual flowers and with vines. Mrs. Stone and the Secretary helped distribute prizes at a largely attended meeting in the Fall. This undertaking has been carried on continuously since this small beginning, with highly gratifying results.[3]

[3] Miss Bernice Billings of the Boston Tuberculosis Association has been the guiding spirit of this work and her efforts eventually won for her a special award from the Massachusetts Federation of Garden Clubs.

The George Robert White Medal of Honor for 1930 was awarded to David G. Grandison Fairchild of Washington, D. C. Mr. Fairchild had had a long career with the Department of Agriculture, having been in charge of foreign explorations since 1903.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal was awarded to William Anderson, Superintendent of the Bayard Thayer estate in South Lancaster, where he had raised many thousand kalmias and *Taxus media Thayerae*. He had succeeded in naturalizing acres of Scotch heather and had proved himself a skillful propagator. He served the Society in various capacities for many years.

Carl Purdy of Ukiah, California, received the Thomas Roland Medal. Mr. Purdy was well known for his work in the introduction of Pacific Coast plants to the Eastern States and to Europe. Mr. Purdy came East to give a lecture in Horticultural Hall on November 6, and the Medal was presented to him by the Secretary at that time.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees in December, 1930, it was voted to award the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase to Mr. Burrage himself for the magnificent orchid exhibit which he staged at the Spring Show. At the same meeting the Society's large Gold Medal was awarded to Mrs. Catherine S. Eastwood of Attleboro for her work in the development of school gardens. Mrs. Eastwood began this work in 1893 and conducted it every Summer for thirty-seven years with the exception of one year spent in Europe. The Deerfield Street garden in Boston, managed by her for the Women's Municipal League, had exhibited many times in Horticultural Hall and in 1930 received first prize for its garden display at the Children's Show.

Many parts of the state were visited by the Committee on Gardens in 1930. Faulkner Farm, the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Brandegee, was chosen for the Society's Gold Medal, a natural choice, for it was considered one of the best developed and most interesting estates in Greater Boston.

"Stonover," a beautiful estate in Lenox, won a Silver Medal for Miss Mary Parsons. It was a place which had been developed along natural lines with many magnificent trees.

Winthrop Ames was given a Silver Medal for his estate in

North Easton called "Queset" from the Indian name of a stream running through it. Among its features were topiary figures produced by training the small-leaved euonymus creeper over wire frames. The inner frames had rusted away but the interlaced vines continued to support themselves in the original shapes.

It had been unusual up to that time for a garden medal to be awarded to an institution, but the Garden Committee felt, in 1930, that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology had done a notable piece of work in the landscaping and planting of the grounds around the house of the President, on the banks of the Charles River in Cambridge. It was decided to recognize this work by the award of a Bronze Medal. The planting, largely of evergreens, had been done so successfully and with such skill that it could be pointed out as a model for similar work on the grounds of other educational institutions. Miss Mabel Keyes Babcock of Boston was the landscape architect.

Other awards included a Bronze Medal to Mrs. Gertrude I. Titus for a hillside garden in Swampscott; a Garden Certificate to Mrs. Tracey Eustis of Marblehead for a unique garden at a summer home; a Garden Certificate to Mrs. George O. Forbes for a summer garden in North Egremont. The Porch Fund created by Mr. Burrage in 1929 was drawn upon for a Gold Medal award to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Robinson in Needham for a porch built in 1930 and facing an attractive garden. The porch was made by replacing a series of windows from which the garden had previously been viewed.

John S. Ames, the Society's very efficient Treasurer, had a satisfactory report to make at the end of the year. The income had exceeded expenditures by $2,918.86, and this sum was transferred to the earned income account. It included $1,477 transferred from *Horticulture's* account to the Society's general income. The sum of $5,000 from the Spring Show profit had been merged with the Show Insurance Fund. Because of many complaints the Trustees had voted to discontinue the practice of opening the Hall for rummage sales.

This was the last year the Society was to operate under the rules adopted in 1904, which called for an annual meeting in November and an inaugural meeting the following January.

1931—PASSING OF A GREAT BENEFACTOR

THE Society suffered a severe loss for the third successive year when its President, Albert C. Burrage, passed away suddenly at his summer home in Manchester. This was in June, 1931, shortly after he had been elected President for the eleventh time, having held the office for a longer period than any previous President in the Society's history. When he assumed office the Society had only about 900 members and when he died it had almost 7,000, the largest number in its history and the largest of any similar organization in this country. All the activities of the Society were developed to a remarkable degree in his administration. He was President when the Society acquired *Horticulture* and did much to aid in the expansion of that publication. He gave freely of his time and wealth in the development of the exhibitions of the Society, his own exhibits being of a character which won recognition throughout the world. He was largely responsible for a great orchid exhibition in March, 1920. On that occasion his own exhibit occupied an entire floor of one hall and was arranged to reproduce natural conditions.

In May, 1921, he put on an exhibition of wild flowers and ferns which has never been equalled in this country. The large hall became a mountain gorge, at one end of which a waterfall tumbled and dashed over its rocky bed into a large shady pool, from which a brook flowed under a rustic bridge and on through the glade. Nearly 83,000 people saw this exhibition—a figure never before approached by the Society.

In 1921 Mr. Burrage was given the George Robert White Medal of Honor "in recognition of his conspicuous services to horticulture by the establishment in Beverly of the greatest collection of Orchids the new world has yet seen; for his skillful and energetic management of the Society and for his labors to increase the love, protection, and cultivation of New England wild

flowers and ferns through his remarkable exhibition of these plants."

Mr. Burrage had a prominent part in the great orchid show which was held in 1923 with the Massachusetts Horticultural Society acting as host to the American Orchid Society. Mr. Burrage filled the large hall with contributions of such supreme merit and educational value that Gurney Wilson of the Royal Horticultural Society, who acted as one of the judges, returned to England with a report which won that Society's Gold Medal for Mr. Burrage, the first time it had ever been awarded for an American exhibit.

Mr. Burrage had an important part in making the Centennial Exhibition of the Society in Mechanics Building in 1929.

He, of course, had many diversified interests, being connected with many business enterprises. Before turning to horticulture as a hobby he built up one of the finest private collections of minerals to be found in America. In his later years, however, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society was very dear to his heart and received a large amount of his time and attention, the results being seen in its greatly increased membership and prosperity.

Mr. Burrage's gift of $50,000 to the Society for books and a Gold Vase has already been noted, as well as the Porch Fund established in 1929. The Albert Cameron Burrage Fund of $1,200 for promoting the cranberry industry in Massachusetts was established in 1920. In his will he bequeathed his Library of 2,000 books, largely dealing with orchids, to the Society. A committee of Trustees, with William C. Endicott as Chairman, was appointed to draw up resolutions on the loss of Mr. Burrage to the Society.

Anticipating the need of additional Library space in view of the books bequeathed to the Society by Mr. Burrage, a new room of ample proportions was constructed on the top floor of the building. It was an undertaking of some importance, for building regulations required the installation of several long iron girders to support the concrete floor. These alterations cost about $4,500, this amount being taken from the profits of the Spring Show. As a matter of fact, Mr. Burrage's Library was not to be received for several years, but in the meantime abundant use

for the new room was found. It served particularly well for storing the Society's very complete collection of trade catalogues, a collection constantly growing.

Several important improvements to the building were made during Mr. Burrage's term of office. One involved removing a circular iron staircase which led from an ante-room behind the Lecture Hall on the street floor to a room just above, which was used originally as a kitchen, with dumb waiters for sending food down. This kitchen as such had long been abandoned but was discovered to have been used on occasions for making alcoholic beverages by someone who had access to it, but all unknown of course to the officials of the Society. Mr. Burrage proposed that this room be connected by a short flight of stairs with a room on the floor above adjoining the Library, so that it might be used as a Library annex, accommodating large number of seldom-used books. This was done, to the great benefit of the Library.

Another improvement was the construction of a broad stairway from the main exhibition hall to the basement hall, thus making the latter more accessible and increasing the exhibition space. Mr. Burrage himself paid for this work.

What had been known as the document room on the mezzanine floor was transformed into a large committee room by laying a new floor, constructing a cement tile-like ceiling and hanging wide folding doors. The documents which had been housed there were transferred to a long, narrow room partitioned off from the second-floor storage room, where they were much more accessible.

A long room which the Secretary had been occupying was divided to make two rooms, one of which was assigned to the Secretary's assistant, while the other was taken over by the Wild Flower Preservation Society of which Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby was President, with Miss Lilly Tobey as her assistant. An unused air shaft adjoining this room was made into a large supply closet, thus adding to the facilities of this very active organization. The Secretary of the Society then took up quarters in a large, square room which had originally been assigned to the Treasurer of the Society but which was seldom used.

Other changes were made at the rear of the building on the second floor to provide facilities for a business staff which had

become necessary with the rapid growth of the Society. Finally a passenger elevator was installed, much smaller than desired but limited in size because the only space available for it was also limited. This is the only answer that can be given to criticism of the elevator service sometimes voiced.

Now to turn to other matters of interest in 1931. The Society went back to Mechanics Building for the Spring Flower Show, the dates being March 17–21. It was a well attended Show and made a profit of $21,604.32 in spite of adverse circumstances. In his report on this Show the Chairman of the Prize Committee, Samuel J. Goddard, said, "Never before has the Society conducted an exhibition that covered such a variety of displays with choice material in orchids, tropical and cool greenhouse plants, wild and woodland scenes, Spring and Summer gardens, Alpine and rock gardens, along with artistic and tasteful arrangements which were outstanding." These encomiums must have been deserved, for Mr. Goddard had had long experience in show work and was not given to exaggeration. It was agreed that the roses were better than usual and the carnations were shown in containers other than vases, thus falling in with a new vogue in the display of these flowers.

A plan for dividing the responsibility for the Dahlia Show with the New England Dahlia Society and for the Gladiolus Show with the New England Gladiolus Society was now being tried out. It worked well and later was extended by turning over these shows and the Iris Show to the interested societies, the Horticultural Society giving them all its facilities.

The Autumn Show assumed new proportions in 1931, with chrysanthemums and carnations appearing in greater numbers. However, the President's Cup went to Dr. Walter G. Kendall for a unique display of hardy grapes, said by many persons to surpass anything of the kind they had previously seen in the Hall. Incidentally, the award of a President's Cup was now restricted to the Spring and Autumn Shows and later was to be confined to the Spring Show alone.

An innovation at the Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens was the showing of films in the lower hall while the other halls were cleared for judging. This plan provided enter-

tainment for the children during the tedious waiting period and prevented the expenditure of their abundant energies in other ways. The plan was so successful that it became standard procedure.

This was the first year in which the annual meeting was held in May, as required by the changes in the By-Laws, and the election of officers became somewhat involved. Mr. Burrage was elected President, his term to run from December 31, 1931, to May 2, 1932. Oaks Ames became a Vice President, his term to run from December 31, 1931, to May 1, 1933. Five Trustees were chosen to serve from December 31, 1931, to May 7, 1934. They were Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby, Walter Hunnewell, Robert G. Stone, Hugh Bancroft, and George Butterworth.

Earlier in the year Ernest B. Dane had been selected by the Board to fill out the unexpired term of Dr. Wilson. When Mr. Webster became President, following the death of Mr. Burrage, Walter Hunnewell, who was chosen to succeed him as Vice President, was succeeded on the Board by Albert C. Burrage, Jr.

At an important meeting of the new Board of Trustees it was voted on recommendation of the Committee on Exhibitions that the Secretary be given an assistant whose work should deal primarily with the Shows, giving the Secretary more time for executive duties, which were becoming increasingly heavy. James Greehan was appointed to the position. Mr. Greehan had been with Lord & Burnham greenhouse builders, and was well known to the trade.

For several years a parcel of land at the corner of Brookline and Longwood avenues had been held for the benefit of the Society by certain individuals and estates with the thought in mind that a new building might be erected on it, but this idea having been abandoned, the land was sold in 1931. A special committee appointed to report on the subject had recommended that the Society remain in its present quarters, inasmuch as they occupied a superior location and should meet the needs of the members and the public for many years. It was pointed out that the theatre next door would doubtless be removed at some future time, giving way to an extension of the park facing the First

Albert C. Burrage, President from 1921 to 1931

Edwin S. Webster, President from 1931 to 1944

Church of Christ, Scientist, and maintained by that organization, thus greatly improving the position of Horticultural Hall.

The Library was provided with new lights in 1931, while new display racks made the magazines more accessible to readers. The number of libraries and institutions with which information was being exchanged had grown in two years from sixteen to forty-eight. The most significant of the new contacts was an invitation from the Library of Congress to be represented in its Union Catalogues, a record of the location of books of value to students. A new and long-needed shelf list of the Library was undertaken.

It was interesting to find that *Horticulture's* circulation continued to grow in spite of poor business conditions and that neither the New York or Pennsylvania Societies had fallen behind in the number of their subscriptions. However, it became necessary to reduce the size of the paper because of the shrinkage in advertising receipts.[1]

A new bulletin on begonias by Mrs. H. H. Buxton of Peabody was issued in 1931, the most complete treatise on these plants which had been published to that time in this country. The Society's bulletins had a ready sale at the Flower Shows and aided in disseminating much important information.

The Society's large Gold Medal was awarded from the Hunnewell Fund to Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames for their estate in North Easton, notable for its great trees, sweeping lawns, beautiful vistas and for magnificent planting along the banks of a pond, where azaleas in variety were used exceptionally well. Special attention was called to the greenhouses and to Mr. Ames' conspicuous success in the cultivation of Kurume azaleas under glass. Mr. Ames was the first person to exhibit these azaleas in the eastern states, plants having been sent to him from Kurume in Japan by Mr. Wilson.

A Silver Medal went to Mrs. J. R. McGinley for her seaside garden in Manchester and another to Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey

[1] In 1925 a working arrangement had been made with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the Horticultural Society of New York whereby all the members of each Society received *Horticulture*.

Whitney of Milton for a large and beautiful garden at their Summer home in Wood's Hole on Cape Cod, where Mr. Whitney made a specialty of yellow roses. Garden Certificates were awarded to Charles D. Armstrong for a garden in North Centerville which included a large collection of specimen box plants, probably the largest in New England; to Archibald Blanchard of Nahant for a garden featuring roses and to Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Proctor of Swampscott for an original and very successful use of annuals.

A special award of a Silver Medal was made by the Trustees to the Cambridge [Massachusetts] Plant Club "in recognition of the fact that it is the oldest garden club in America." The first meeting of this club was held on January 20, 1889, at the home of Mrs. John Hayes, with twenty members present. This award resulted in a controversy which still continues. The Ladies Garden Club of Athens, Ga., has repeatedly laid claim to the honor of being the country's oldest garden club with a continuous existence. In fact, it is so credited by the Garden Club of America, notwithstanding that it did not hold a meeting until 1892.

Dr. Frederick V. Coville of the Department of Agriculture in Washington was awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor. Taming the wild blueberries which had grown for years on the pine barrens of New Jersey was the accomplishment which had won him fame, for he had helped to create a new and highly important industry. He had done equally valuable work in the West, however, having developed a method of grazing control in the national forests which permitted their economic utilization, yielding as high as $42,000,000 a year to the government for grazing permits.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal was voted to William Henry Judd, an English-born gardener who had succeeded Jackson Dawson as chief propagator at the Arnold Arboretum after acting as Mr. Dawson's assistant. It devolved upon him to raise and distribute much of the material obtained by Dr. Wilson in Asia.

J. D. Eisle of Philadelphia received the Thomas Roland Medal. He was long connected with the Henry A. Dreer Nurseries at

Riverton, N. J. and was responsible for bringing many new plants into cultivation. The new William N. Craig Fund was drawn upon for the large Gold Medal of the Society bestowed upon Miss Isabella Preston of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Canada, particularly for her lily breeding work.

Mrs. Edward Gilchrist Low of Brookline won a special Gold Medal award in recognition of her achievement in founding the Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture for Women at Groton, Mass. This school educated a number of well known landscape architects and grew to have considerable influence.

The porch competition inaugurated by Mr. Burrage continued to attract attention and the medal award for 1931 was made to Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Goodridge of East Milton. At the December meeting of the Trustees the Albert C. Burrage $1,000 Gold Vase was awarded to Bobbink & Atkins for what was considered the most outstanding exhibit at any of the Society's Shows in 1931, a splendid rose garden set up at the great Spring Flower Show.

Three lectures were given by the Society in the course of the year, one by Clarence Elliott, a well known English horticulturist, one by R. M. Cooley of Silverton, Oregon, and one by Professor A. B. Stout of the New York Botanical Garden. It had not yet seemed wise to resume the practice of conducting a regular lecture course.

This had been a satisfactory year from the Treasurer's point of view in spite of poor business conditions. The Spring Flower Show had made a profit of over $21,000 as has been noted, the Mt. Auburn Cemetery management had sent a check for $1,943.91, *Horticulture* had turned in a profit of $1,477.51 and running expenses had been normal except for certain improvements. Thus $2,918.86 could be transferred to the earned income account.

Before the end of the year, however, the Trustees voted to part with two of its assets—the Herbarium which the former Secretary, William P. Rich, had assembled over a series of years, and the Herbarium which George E. Davenport had given the Society in 1875. The latter Herbarium included 116 species and many varieties of North American ferns, with a complete cata-

logue. It was given by the Society to the Gray Herbarium, while the Rich collection went to the Boston Society of Natural History. The Trustees felt that these Herbaria could be displayed to better advantage by these institutions than at Horticultural Hall.

1932—THE SOCIETY WEATHERS A DEPRESSION

EDWIN S. WEBSTER, who succeeded Mr. Burrage as President, paid his predecessor a warm tribute at the annual meeting the first Monday of May, 1932, and the members present stood to honor his memory. The plan of combining the annual and inaugural meetings, carried out the previous year for the first time, was found very satisfactory, as Mr. Webster remarked. In the course of his address the President pointed out that the Society had suffered very little from the then current depression. There had been a steady increase in membership, with a total enrollment of 7,308 men and women at the beginning of May, representing many states. To be sure, the Society had not escaped the effects of business conditions altogether, for there had been a slight drop in the revenue from investments, but this loss had been largely overcome by receipts from membership dues, which amounted to $12,112.50. Still, the President thought it might be wise to charge an initiation fee of one dollar. Under the constitution the dues themselves could not be more than two dollars a year.[1] Mr. Webster was reelected at this meeting, while Walter Hunnewell was elected a Vice President.

When making his report as Chairman of the Library Committee Mr. Kidder noted that Mr. Burrage had bequeathed his horticultural library to the Society, but that it had not been received at that date.[2]

The Chairman stated in his report that the Library had been in the habit of paying postage on the books mailed out to members, but that the cost had increased to such an extent that the

[1] Later the constitution was changed, as will be noted, and Mr. Webster's suggestion was not put into effect.

[2] Several packages of books were soon delivered, but Mrs. Burrage desired to keep the greater part of the library for the time being in the beautiful room built for it in her Manchester home.

Library Committee had voted to ask borrowers to pay the transportation charges both ways. The response had been excellent, he said, and the savings considerable.

Three amendments to the By Laws were adopted at the 1932 Annual Meeting which in effect were as follows:

Each member became entitled to at least one free admission to every exhibition of the Society under rules to be established by the Trustees.

The Committee on Exhibitions was to consist of at least two Trustees and three other members of the Society, who might or might not be Trustees.

The Committee on Prizes was to consist of two Trustees and three other members of the Society who might or might not be Trustees.

This was in line with the efforts being made to do what probably would be called today streamlining all the Exhibitions. The fact was being realized that the Spring Exhibition in particular had come to be an enterprise of huge proportions, requiring great concentration of skill and energy and the application of thoroughgoing business principles. Those in charge wisely agreed to work for an ever increasing degree of "finish," to use a technical term, meaning the most careful attention to details in the setting up of the exhibits. With the goal of near-perfection always being kept in mind, the Boston Show has come to be known as the outstanding exhibition of the country in this respect.

Business conditions were such that the Trustees deemed it wise to hold the Spring Exhibition in Horticultural Hall rather than risk the heavy expense involved in going to Mechanics Building. The crowds which came to the Show assumed such proportions that the doors had to be closed on several occasions. The total attendance ran to 41,000, with a profit well above $15,000. All this was gratifying but the Trustees and the Exhibition Committee in particular felt strongly that it was due the public to provide more commodious quarters for the Spring Exhibitions.

Some attempts on the part of persons outside the Society to share in the profits of a great Show in the Spring were reported, with the possibility of a rival exhibition being attempted. The

Committee expressed itself as firm in the belief that the Show should be handled exclusively by the Society and certain inquiries indicated that most of the prominent exhibitors would stand by the Society in this matter. Even the advertising was kept in Society hands at this show, being handled by the secretary, with a considerable saving.

The Spring Exhibition was pronounced one of the most beautiful ever held in Horticultural Hall with a finish and artistic touch seldom achieved. Mrs. Albert C. Burrage was awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for a remarkable tropical garden with orchids. Actually this award was made at the end of the year, the award being given annually for the best exhibit at any of the year's Shows. The President's Cup was awarded at the Spring Show to Will C. Curtis and Ormond Hamilton for a wild garden.

One advantage which came from holding the Spring Show in Horticultural Hall was found in the fact that it introduced many persons to the Library and to the Society itself. The Library was kept open each evening during the Show and the number of visitors was encouragingly large. Furthermore, the number of books loaned increased from a total 680 for the month as against 442 in 1931, when the Show was held elsewhere.

The Fall Show was omitted in 1932, largely for financial reasons, but the Gardeners' and Florists' Club of Boston felt that a substitute Show was needed and asked for the privilege of trying its hand at such an Exhibition. Permission was given, of course, and an excellent Show, although largely commercial, was staged under the management of William N. Craig, a very active member of the Society, a one-time Trustee and a great horticulturist.

The 1932 convention of the National Council of State Garden Club Federations was held in Boston and many of the visitors spent some time at Horticultural Hall. The meetings were held at the Copley Plaza, with the Secretary of the Society as one of the speakers.

An important addition to the records of the Society was made in 1932, when Mrs. Florence Mayo, an assistant to the Secretary, assembled all the available facts about the portraits and other

paintings on display in the building and also about the busts, most of the latter being in the Trustees' room. This information will be found in the appendix of this book.

The portraits in the upper corridor are, with one exception, those of one-time Presidents, which is the reason, of course, that this corridor is often referred to as the Presidents' Gallery. As stated not all the portraits are those of Presidents. The largest and one of the best is that of H. H. Hunnewell, who served as Trustee and Treasurer, which hangs in a conspicuous place in the second-floor corridor. Mr. Hunnewell was one of the Society's important benefactors. Arrangements were made in 1932 for hanging the portraits of Thomas Roland and Ernest H. Wilson. The first was purchased through the cooperation of friends and the second by a contribution from the Horticultural Club of Boston, of which organization both men were prominent members. The Horticultural Club had previously presented the Society the portrait of John K. M. L. Farquhar, at one time President of the Society as well as a leading member of the club. The new portraits were hung in the Secretary's office.

The unemployment situation as it affected private gardeners was brought to the Society's attention in 1932. This situation resulted from the necessity experienced by many estate owners of reducing expenses. It was agreed by the Trustees to publish the advertisements of gardeners out of employment without charge and soon they ran to two columns in the magazine *Horticulture*. The Society also undertook to be of service to certain groups of unemployed in the ranks of architects and civil engineers. Not much was said about this work but it helped meet the immediate needs of these men and their families.

W. Albert Manda of South Orange, N. J. was awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1932, an award which was highly commended, for Mr. Manda was one of the best loved men in the field of horticulture. He held membership in thirty-four horticultural and scientific organizations. Before going to New Jersey he was in charge of the Botanic Gardens at Harvard University for five years. In his lifetime he won over 2,000 prizes, including 400 cups and many medals, all leading up to this

award of the George Robert White Medal. Word came in the midst of the Spring Show in Boston a few months later that he had been killed by falling from a train between South Orange and New York.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal was bestowed on Charles O. Dexter of Sandwich for his work in hybridizing and propagating azaleas and other rhododendrons. Although Mr. Dexter was strictly an amateur his enthusiasm knew no bounds. Most of the time he could spare from his work as a mill executive was spent at his Sandwich farm, where he built up a plant collection which attracted hundreds of visiting experts.[3]

The Thomas Roland Medal which went to Dr. Walter G. Kendall of Atlantic was only one of the dozens which had been awarded to him in a long life time, but the most highly prized, representing the highest honor bestowed on him. Dr. Kendall, a dentist, was another amateur to achieve conspicuous success in horticulture. For forty years he gave much of his time to the cultivation of grapes on a large scale, although not commercially, for all his fruit was given away. Dr. Kendall's vineyard was in what is known geologically as a "kettle hole," which was a feature of his place, and he experimented with every variety suggested for this section. The results were shown at many exhibitions in Horticultural Hall.

Members of the Garden Committee, of which Mrs. Bayard Thayer was Chairman, made many visits in 1932 and expanded the committee's work by introducing Blue Ribbon Certificates, which were considered to have somewhat higher value as awards than the Society's regular Certificates.[4]

The complete list of garden awards follows:

A Silver Medal to Mrs. Edwin S. Webster for a beautiful and outstanding rose garden on the shores of Buzzards Bay at Quissett, a garden showing the perfection of culture.

A Silver Medal to Dudley L. Pickman of Bedford for a Spring

[3] Unfortunately, the men who became owners of the estate after Mr. Dexter's death did not maintain it as he had done and the collection was gradually dispersed.

[4] These Blue Ribbon Certificates were continued for several years and then disappeared from the records.

bog garden on the banks of the Sudbury River showing great knowledge and skill in the cultivation of native shrubs and flowers.

A special Silver Medal to Mrs. Theodore E. Brown of Milton for a superbly grown planting of flowering and fruiting shrubs of unusual excellence and in great variety.

A Blue Ribbon Garden Certificate to Mrs. Holden McGinley of Milton for a garden of great charm and restraint planted in an unusually interesting manner.

A Blue Ribbon Garden Certificate to Mrs. George R. Fearing of Westwood for a courtyard and rose garden.

A Blue Ribbon Garden Certificate to the Park Department of the City of Boston for the new rose garden in Fenway Park.

A Garden Certificate to Horace C. Baker of Malden for a unique garden skilfully planted on a ledge and including a surprisingly large number of rare and unusual plants.

A Garden Certificate to Miss Cornelia Conway Parker of South Lancaster for a small intimate garden spot planted with restraint and charm.

A Garden Certificate to Mrs. George L. Hyde of Swampscott for a well cultivated personal garden.

Another former President and long an active member of the Society, Henry Pickering Walcott, passed away November 11, 1932, at the age of 93. He was prominent in many lines of endeavor, as a lengthy tribute by Nathaniel T. Kidder in the Year Book for 1933 attests. He was elected a life member of the Society in 1876 and served on the Library Committee for ten years. Dr. Walcott became President of the Society in 1886. During his administration a plan for a building in the Public Gardens was favored by the Society, but not by the city fathers, much to the doctor's disappointment.

The Benevolent Fraternity Fruit and Flower Mission, which had been under the Society's wing for several years, with headquarters in the basement of Horticultural Hall, had more than the usual number of calls to meet in 1932 and expressed its gratitude for more than 1,400 bushels of produce salvaged by the Society for an emergency bureau, upon whose lists were 1,500 registrants—unemployed architects and engineers. The annual

report of the Mission showed that 141 hospitals, institutions and individual homes were reached with flowers after the Spring Show alone. This was set down as the most successful year in the history of the organization, which had been formed sixty-four years before in the basement of the Hollis Street Church.

The year had been reasonably satisfactory from the Treasurer's viewpoint. There had been a profit of $2,527.20, with *Horticulture* contributing $996.48. The Show profit was $17,245.23, as noted. The Show Insurance Fund was standing at $35,000.

1933—STEADY GROWTH THROUGH TROUBLED TIMES

ALTHOUGH March of 1933 found the great Spring Exhibition back in Mechanics Building, it was under anything but favorable conditions. There had just been a bank holiday and a general feeling of gloom prevailed throughout the country. It was not easy to obtain exhibitors and three days of the show week were rainy days, adding to the difficulties experienced by the Committee on Exhibitions, with Harold S. Ross as Chairman. Nevertheless, it proved to be an excellent Show, with an attendance of 65,000, and it made a profit of $10,000, which was considered remarkable under the circumstances.

One of the exhibits at this Show was among the most outstanding ever seen in Mechanics Building and one which has never been surpassed. It was a large and beautifully planted rock garden set up by Ralph Hancock for English Gardens, Inc., and its importance may be judged by the fact that it received the President's Cup and the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York, and then, at the end of the year, the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase as the most outstanding exhibit at any of the Society's shows in 1933. Mr. Hancock was an expert and had been a winner at several New York shows.

Two major experiments in the matter of exhibitions were made in 1933. One was the holding of a Show devoted exclusively to fruits and vegetables. The other was the presentation of an Autumn Show with an admission fee. Both exhibitions were excellent, but the Autumn Show suffered a small financial loss. The Exhibition Committee felt that such a Show could be made to pay in future years, but in this they were mistaken, as will later appear.

The exhibitions of fruits had been very popular in years gone by and William C. Endicott, a former President, helped to revive

this interest with a special prize, to be known as the Governor Endecott prize, for pears. This was inspired, no doubt by the fact that a pear tree planted by Governor Endecott was still standing on Mr. Endicott's place in Danvers.[1]

On October 1, 1933, Arno H. Nehrling came to the Society as Exhibition manager. He was well and favorably known, having been at one time an instructor at the Massachusetts State College and later on the staff at Cornell University, eventually leaving the teaching profession to go into business. He had been with the E. G. Hill Company of Richmond, Ind., for several years. When at Cornell he gained experience in flower show work by setting up the exhibits at the State Fair in Syracuse, N. Y. At one time while in Massachusetts Mr. Nehrling came down from Amherst to give a lecture at Horticultural Hall and found his name in large letters on a banner hung across the street from this Hall to Symphony Hall. Little did he dream then that one day he would head the staff at Horticultural Hall.

James Geehan, who had been acting as Show Manager, had been appointed advertising manager of *Horticulture* and its supplement, *Garden Club News*. An office for his use was provided at the rear of the building, where considerable idle space existed.

The annual meeting held the first Monday in May found the Society with a membership of 7,271, it having continued to grow in spite of adverse conditions. The President remarked that it was the only Society with which he was familiar that was adding to its list of members at that time. Mr. Webster was pleased that most of the essential repairs were being paid for out of current income. However, it is only fair to say that the reasonably good financial situation which prevailed had not been achieved without considerable economy as well as some sacrifice on the part of the employes, who had agreed to accept a ten per cent reduction in wages and salaries.

The repairs which the President had in mind when making his address included the pointing of the bricks at the rear of the building and the installation of copper gutters where leaks had begun to appear.

When the Secretary made his report at the annual meeting he

[1] The change in spelling has come about in the course of years.

added a little to the President's remarks, pointing out that the increase in membership had been confined wholly to annual members. The chart in the Secretary's office was showing a constant drop in life memberships, as has been noted in previous years. It is true that the life membership fee had been raised from thirty to fifty dollars, but that figure seemed low enough when considering what a life member might expect to receive over a term of years.

The election of officers at the annual meeting found Mr. Webster again chosen President with Oakes Ames re-elected as Vice President. Jeré A. Downs was added to the Board of Trustees.

Ways of saving money came up for discussion at the meetings of the Trustees, as a matter of course, and a decision was reached to eliminate the use of the large Gold Medal at the exhibitions of the Society, with only the Exhibition Medal being awarded. (The two are alike except in size and weight.) Another important vote provided that a Medal Certificate instead of the Medal itself be given to an exhibitor if he had previously received one actual Medal. This was in line with the custom of the Royal Horticultural Society.

The Trustees voted that members of the Exhibition Committee should be paid five dollars for each meeting attended, with the provision that not more than one thousand dollars in fees should be paid out in any year.

Many gifts of horticultural books, some of them very valuable, reach the Library every year. In 1933 these gifts included books from the Library of Ernest W. Bowditch, given by his daughter, Mrs. Augustus H. Eustis, in his memory. They included several scarce editions which the Librarian had long wished to have on the shelves. There came also a collection of pomological books from the Libraries of the two Robert Mannings, one a founder and the other long the Society's Secretary-Treasurer. Richard C. Manning made this gift. People seemed to be reading more in spite of or perhaps because of the depression, calls for books coming from Maine to Florida and west to Oregon, with a total of 1,407 mailings. The postage was $84.24. Refunds amounted to $84.21, making the cost of this service in the matter of postage

just three cents. The saving in postage has continued to increase as the circulation of books from the Library has grown.

Like all publications *Horticulture* had rough sledding in 1933, although encouragement was found in the fact that the circulation remained almost stationary, whereas many magazines suffered a loss of one-third of their subscribers. The circulation at the end of 1933 was 22,240. Advertising revenue fell off to a marked degree and yet the year ended with a profit. The experiment of publishing a supplement to be called *Garden Club News* was started in the hope of giving added support to the Garden Club Federation. The initial response was not as satisfactory as had been expected, although considerable advertising was received. A similar experiment was tried in Pennsylvania but did not prove successful. *Garden Club News* was carried on for some time and although it was helpful to the garden clubs, in the end the expense outweighed the paper's usefulness and the experiment was set down as a failure.

Two new bulletins were published, "Garden Club Programs" and "Herbs, How to Grow Them and How to Use Them." The latter bulletin, written by Mrs. Helen Noyes Webster, was particularly successful and led Mrs. Webster to prepare a good sized book on herbs.

The Committee on Special Medals, with Oakes Ames as Chairman, chose J. Horace McFarland of Harrisburg, Pa., to receive the George Robert White Medal of Honor for 1933. Mr. McFarland, long President of the American Civic Association, one-time President of the American Rose Society and Editor of the Rose Annual, was widely known as a writer and lecturer who had a restless and insatiable interest in new plants wherever grown and a resistless desire to bring more of beauty and charm into American cities and homes. He had a large garden at "Breeze Hill" in Harrisburg, where countless plants, newly discovered or hybridized, were grown so that judgment might be passed upon them. He was one of the moving spirits in the publication of "Standardized Plant Names" and was a member of the Council of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. He has been credited with the suggestion which resulted in the formation of the present national park system.

The Committee named Lambertus C. Bobbink of Rutherford, N. J. to receive the Thomas Roland Medal. As the head of one of the country's largest plant-producing firms he was always eager to develop and offer new and better material.

E. G. Hill of Richmond, Ind. was selected for the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal. Mr. Hill was a veteran rose grower responsible for the introduction of many of the best roses going into commerce, with particular emphasis on those intended for greenhouse culture. It was a matter of great regret that Mr. Hill passed away before the Medal could reach him.

Dr. and Mrs. Homer Gage were recommended for a Gold Medal from the H. H. Hunnewell Fund for their estate in Shrewsbury. This estate, known as "Iristhorpe," featured irises in general, but Japanese irises in particular.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Webster had already been awarded a Silver Medal for their beautiful rose garden at Quissett, but the 1933 committee decided that the garden deserved greater recognition and gave it the Society's large Gold Medal. The year's additional awards as recommended by the committee were as follows:

Mrs. Stephen Weld, a Gold Medal for a fine old garden at Wareham.

Miss Grace Edwards, a Silver Medal for a charming garden at Beverly Farms.

Mr. Charles O. Blood, a Silver Medal for a large garden at Lynnfield Center.

Mrs. Dana Osgood, a Blue Ribbon Certificate, for a unique tree-enclosed garden with many wild flowers at Hopedale.

Mrs. Edith Morgan, a Blue Ribbon Certificate for an intimate garden at Stockbridge.

Mrs. Charles F. Wallace, a Blue Ribbon Certificate, for a delightful small garden at Chestnut Hill.

Mrs. Osborne Howes, a Blue Ribbon Certificate for a lovely garden built around a swimming pool at Chestnut Hill.

Mrs. Ralph Hornblower, a Blue Ribbon Certificate for a lawn of unusual excellence at Plymouth.

Corliss Brothers, a Certificate for an artistic wayside stand at West Gloucester.

Hugh Bancroft, a Trustee, passed away in 1933. As a publisher he was especially valuable to the Society on the committee guiding the destinies of *Horticulture*. The President, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, appointed William Ellery of Chestnut Hill to fill out Mr. Bancroft's unexpired term. At the 1934 annual meeting Mr. Ellery was elected for three years. William Dexter was appointed to succeed Albert C. Burrage, Jr., whose term had expired.

Unfortunately the financial situation was not as favorable at the end of the year as had been hoped. Indeed, the Society found itself in the red for the first time in several years. The deficit was not large, however ($2,819.72), and the small check of only $700 from Mt. Auburn Cemetery helped explain it in part. *Horticulture* was in the happy position of being able to show a profit of $1,488.89, and the sum of $12,555 had been received from membership fees, an increase of $400 over the previous year.

1934—A NEW EXHIBITION MANAGER PROVES HIMSELF

THE Committee on Exhibitions, with Harold S. Ross as Chairman, was beset with difficulties when preparing for the Spring Show at Mechanics Building in 1934. With conditions as they were, most private growers were in no mood to incur the expense required to set up worth-while exhibits. In particular, no amateur was willing to supply the material needed for a feature exhibit on the stage. As a result the original schedule had to be revised and reissued. Then the commercial exhibitors, together with the garden clubs, extended helping hands and a highly satisfactory Exhibition, sufficient to fill the halls, was presented. The stage exhibit, which was set up by Sherman Eddy, under the name of Tow Path Gardens, Inc., showed an old New England farm house in a suitable setting with trees and flowers, and won the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York. Mr. Eddy, with headquarters in Hartford, Conn., could always be depended on for original and attractive exhibits.

In reviewing this show Mr. Ross mentioned an effort by the Society through the Committee on Exhibitions to maintain a proper balance between the private and commercial interests, both being needed to make the Shows complete. The Show yielded $21,364.31, which amount was transferred to general income.

The annual meeting of the Society, held on May 7, was preceded by a lecture in which the Secretary reviewed the activities of the previous year, illustrating his talk with lantern slides. Mr. Webster opened the meeting by calling attention to the improvement which had been made in the acoustics of the Lecture Hall. For many years it had been difficult to hold meetings in the hall with any degree of satisfaction because of pronounced echoes and outside noises. When the building was erected doubtless the archi-

tects did not consider the possibilities of disturbance from street cars and other vehicles. In those days, too, not much was known about sound proofing methods. The situation had been remedied, Mr. Webster said, by covering the ceiling with a substance which catches and holds sound waves to a marked degree. Double sash had been put on the windows and a forced ventilating system did away with the necessity of opening the windows except in extremely hot weather.

When speaking of the surprising growth of the Society throughout the depression years Mr. Webster stated that the total membership of 7,610 included 821 persons in other states and nineteen in foreign countries. Twenty-one members resided in California and eighteen in Florida.

All this was pleasant to hear, but when the President came to the matter of finances the story was, unfortunately, somewhat different, because he had to report the loss which existed at the end of 1933. He expressed the belief that with the good showing made by the Spring Exhibition and by the practice of rigid economy the Society would not be using red ink at the end of 1934. He was doomed to disappointment, however, for again there was to be a deficit when the year closed, although it amounted only to $641.60.

A new Medal to be known as the H. H. Hunnewell Medal was introduced in 1934. It was made from a design by John Paramino and carried the likeness of Mr. Hunnewell on the face, with the words "Horatio Hollis Hunnewell" around it. The reverse carried an inscription stating that the Medal was awarded for "an estate showing rare skill and beauty." The expense of this medal was borne by the H. H. Hunnewell Fund, which had previously financed the Society's regular Medal. It was stipulated when the fund was created that the awards to be made from it must be for estates of at least three acres, a fact that has appeared to create difficulties in the use of the fund in some years. The first Medal struck went to the Hunnewell family.

The garden committee for 1934 was notable for its distinguished personnel. The members were Mrs. Bayard Thayer, chairman, Mrs. Albert C. Burrage, Jr., Joseph E. Chandler, Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby, Mrs. F. B. Crowninshield, William C. Endicott

and Mrs. Homer Gage. The new H. H. Hunnewell Gold Medal was awarded to Grenville Linda Winthrop for his estate in Lenox, which was remarkable for the great number of magnificent trees it contained, its broad, perfectly kept lawns, its shrub plantings and a large rock garden planted exclusively with woody material. The estate was unusual in the fact that it had no flower gardens or borders.

A Gold Medal went to Mrs. Galen L. Stone for her estate in Marion, which bordered the ocean and had large greenhouses surrounded by flower gardens given over mostly to annuals. The estate had many fine trees and remarkably well-kept hedges.[1]

A Gold Medal was awarded to Jeré A. Downs for his rose garden in Winchester. This garden, designed by John B. Wills, was one of the outstanding rose gardens in the state as regards size, arrangement and the quality of the plants grown in it.[2]

A Gold Medal was awarded Mrs. Francis Boardman Crowinshield for her rose garden in Marblehead. This garden, which has been established for many years, has several unique features and is looked down upon by several fine old statues. It is still maintained as this is written.

Other awards for the year were as follows:

A Silver Medal to Mrs. Pierpont L. Stackpole for her garden in Manchester.

A Blue Ribbon Certificate to Mr. and Mrs. George B. Baker for a charming little garden at Chestnut Hill.

A Blue Ribbon Certificate to Mrs. Gaspar G. Bacon for a garden in Jamaica Plain.

A Blue Ribbon Certificate to Dr. and Mrs. Amos I. Hadley for a garden in Wayland surrounded by a serpentine wall.

A Blue Ribbon Certificate to Mrs. Stephen Van Renssaeler Crosby for a remarkable hornbeam hedge on her estate in Manchester.

A Blue Ribbon Certificate to Mrs. Charles Sumner Bird, Jr.,

[1] As this is written the estate is in the hands of Robert Stone, his mother having passed away. It is from the Stone greenhouses that the magnificent acacias seen at the Spring Flower Shows in Boston have come. Nowhere else in New England is there a large collection of these plants.

[2] Since the death of Mr. Downs, who was a Trustee of the Society, the estate which included the rose garden has been broken up.

for her driveway in Ipswich lined with magnificent trees planted by Mrs. Bird's father, Randolph Morgan Appleton.

The George Robert White Medal of Honor was awarded to Captain F. Kingdon Ward, noted British plant hunter and explorer. Captain Ward had penetrated to the most distant points of China and had worked in other countries, finding many hundred new plants for European and American gardens. His discoveries of rhododendrons and primulas were especially noteworthy. He was the author of several important books and had already received high honors in his native country.

The Thomas Roland Medal, given for skill in horticulture, went to William Kleinheinz of Elkins Park, Pa., Superintendent for Joseph Widener. He was an expert gardener and the exhibits of acacias from the Widener greenhouses set up by him were among the principal features of the Spring Flower Show in Philadelphia for many years.

H. Harold Hume of Gainesville, Fla. received the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal, and was later to win other important awards because of the important work done by him in the hybridization and propagation of azaleas, camellias, hollies and citrus fruits and for his writings.

Horticulture made a steady gain in circulation in 1934 in spite of depressed business conditions, reaching a total of 25,000. A material factor was a 300 membership increase by the Pennsylvania society, which, of course, added that many to the total. The advertising situation had improved somewhat, with receipts of $19,075 as against $17,000 the previous year. However, this amount was only half that of 1939, when business was better.[3]

The Library acquired two rare and important books in 1934. One was Andrew Mollet's "Garden of Pleasure," published in London in 1670. This purchase gave the Library what probably is the only copy of this work in the country. The second rare book was a copy of the 1599 edition of Gerard's list of the plants

[3] It is to be noted that the profit account of the magazine suffers from the fact that all copies delivered to members of the Society or to subscribers within the Boston postal district must carry stamps instead of being sent by a pound rate, as is permitted outside this district. This means that it costs more to send *Horticulture* to Jamaica Plain or Chestnut Hill than it does to Kalamazoo or Los Angeles. It is one of the peculiar features of the postal regulations.

grown in his garden at Holborn. From it we get an insight into the resources of the best gardens of the 17th century. The practice of setting out the Society's choice books under the protection of glass for the benefit of visitors begun at this time met with warm approval.

This is in effect a dual Library. It has assembled and continually adds to a collection of very old, rare and highly valuable publications, making possible an understanding of horticultural progress as seen through its literature over a period of centuries. At the same time it acquires every new book having horticultural significance either through purchase or from *Horticulture,* which passes on to the Library all the garden books received for review.

An examination of the records in the Secretary's office in 1934 revealed that no fewer than twenty-four persons had been members for at least forty years. The names were published in the Year Book, starting with that of Walter S. Barnes, who had become a member in 1866.

The members of the Prize Committee were voted a five-dollar fee for each meeting attended, following similar action the previous year at the request of the Committee on Exhibitions, but with a total limit of $1,000 in a year.

Both Boston and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society may claim the credit for introducing the school garden movement into America, according to a contribution to the Year Book in 1934 by Thomas Patrick Dooley, head of the Department of Agriculture at the Jamaica Plain High School. It seems that Henry Lincoln Clapp, then master of the George Putnam School in Roxbury, went to Europe in 1890 or '91 to study school gardening, already established there. When he returned he planted a wild garden in the yard of his school, and later added vegetables. Next he succeeded in getting appropriations for the recognition for these forms of horticulture from the Society and became Chairman of the Children's Garden Committee. Enthusiasm for such work began to manifest itself in different parts of the state and the movement soon spread throughout the country. Mr. Dooley's paper covered five pages and was deemed of much importance in correlating all the existing information about the rise and development of school garden activities in America.

Miss Marian Roby Case, a Trustee very much interested in the work of children, donated thirty bronze medals for awards in 1934 and continued such donations as long as she lived. She also conducted a garden school for boys each Summer at her home in Weston.

In 1934 and for several years thereafter Charles Young, with a fruit farm near Fall River, amazed visitors to the fruit and vegetable shows held late each Summer, by the high quality of the apples and pears which he brought in. At the same time he astonished other growers by the unorthodox methods he followed. He did not plow his orchard, as did most growers, but mulched his trees with brush and trimmings and pruned only lightly. His methods were often ridiculed at the time but some of them gradually came into common use.

It is interesting to find the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase awarded at the Autumn Exhibition rather than at the more extensive Spring Show. This much coveted award went to the Isabella Steward Gardner Museum for a large, modernistic chrysanthemum exhibit, which involved a great amount of work and was much admired. The attendance at the Show was disappointing, however, probably because it came close to Election Day, when newspaper publicity was difficult to obtain. Fifty cents admission was charged non-members, but the receipts were not sufficient to prevent a small loss.

Thus it fell to the lot of Mr. Nehrling, the new Exhibition Manager, to supervise two large and important Shows in one of the most difficult years in the Society's history. It was a new experience, but he acquitted himself so handsomely that there was no question about his ability to deal with whatever problems might be encountered in the future.

1935—RIGID ECONOMY WELL REWARDED

WITH a deficit for two years behind them, the Trustees approached 1935 in a mood calling for rigid economy. The heads of committees and departments were called together and instructed to reduce expenditures where this could be done without interfering with the necessary work of the Society. It was decided to put on a small free Show in the Autumn instead of duplicating the expensive Show of the previous year. The early June Show was dropped and the prize awards of the other Shows kept at a minimum.

However, as the season progressed prospects began to look brighter all along the line. The Spring Show was a decided success and the number of members continued to increase, reaching a total of 8,217 at the date of the annual meeting. The month of April alone brought in $2,644 in membership fees, the largest amount at that time for a single month in the Society's history.

Indeed, many large figures began to show on the books, for the Society was necessarily becoming involved in business operations to a considerable extent, although its aims and purposes continued, of course, to be educational and philanthropical. In April the Treasurer paid out $52,000, but that was the month in which most of the Spring Show bills were paid, including $24,000 in prizes.

It was a matter of satisfaction to all concerned that the Board of Trustees felt sufficiently encouraged to restore the salary and wage cuts which had been in effect for some time.

Because of a new appraisement of the building and its contents and a consequent reduction in rates, the amount of insurance premiums due each year had been reduced by several hundred dollars. These insurance premiums, by the way, are an important item of expense, amounting to about $3,000 a year. The loss in rentals had not been made up. This loss, occasioned by the

merging of the food show with a more general exhibition in Mechanics Building, was a substantial one. The food show had been a fixture at Horticultural Hall for many years, but it was feeling the effects of the depression.

The great event of the Spring was, of course, the mammoth Exhibition in Mechanics Building, which earned the Society $21,364.31. Harold S. Ross, who was Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, declared it to be the most beautiful Spring Flower Show so far staged in Boston. It was larger than previous shows, the basement being used, and the exhibits in Grand Hall were staged under the direction of the garden clubs, making this huge auditorium a unit exhibit of "June in New England," This Show was the first to be planned by a landscape architect, Harold Hill Blossom, a member of the Board of Trustees and a man standing high in his profession. Mr. Ross felt that this policy should be followed in the future, as, indeed, it has been, at least in some degree.

A feature of this Show was a conservation garden staged by the New England Wild Flower Preservation Society and the Massachusetts Audubon Society. It received the Silver Medal of the Garden Club of America. The President's Cup was won by Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames for a large and handsome Japanese garden. This was in addition to the Society's Gold Medal. Will C. Curtis won the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York for a remarkable naturalistic garden. Jeré Downs was awarded the Gold Medal of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society for a huge plant of Cymbidium Beatrice, which attracted much attention. The stage exhibit was a handsome azalea garden set up by Mrs. Theodore E. Brown and awarded a Gold Medal.

Only one June Show was held, as voted by the Trustees, but that one was staged in co-operation with the American Peony Society and brought out 7,229 visitors. The experiment of offering ribbons instead of cash prizes was tried at the Gladiolus and Dahlia Shows, but apparently it did not meet with favor, for we find cash prizes in the schedule the following year. A Vegetable and Fruit Show put on in October attracted 8,791 visitors.

A change in policy in the course of the year resulted in an admission charge once more at the Autumn Show, although it

was only twenty-five cents. As a matter of fact, this was carrying out an experiment which caused much discussion and a certain amount of criticism. It involved sending tickets to all the members of the Society with a request that they sell as many as they could. As a result the attendance was 11,239 and the Show earned $684.32.[1]

In the course of the year the Rule Book was completely revised. The use of the Rule Book has simplified and improved the judging at all the Shows and is considered so valuable that it has been adopted in part at least by other organizations.

President Webster was traveling in the West at the time of the 1935 annual meeting, and the senior Vice President, Professor Oakes Ames, was in the chair. The business session was preceded by a lecture given by the Secretary, in which he used lantern slides to review the activities of the previous year. The Secretary then read a letter from the President, and the various committees gave their reports, the gist of which will be covered in this 1935 review.

It was suggested by the Gardeners' and Florists' Club of Boston in 1935 that a series of monthly meetings be held with the cooperation of that organization. This large and very active club had been holding meetings in Horticultural Hall for many years and its suggestion was accepted at once. Lectures were given at these meetings and limited numbers of plants and flowers shown. Mr. Nehrling directed two study courses held in Horticultural Hall by the Boston Branch of the National Association of Gardeners. Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Webster conducted courses in botany for amateurs, which were largely attended. They were under the auspices of the Society. This became the most active study period that had been known for many years. It has not continued at this level, and yet class work has not by any means been ignored. The Society has attempted, it appears, to meet the needs of the times as they have arisen.

The Society continued to cooperate in the work of establishing gardens in the Ward 8 section of the city, and the Secretary was authorized to spend twenty-five dollars for loam to be used

[1] This was the first and only time that an Autumn Show has had a favorable balance, but in spite of that fact the 1935 experiment has not been repeated.

in these gardens. Mrs. Robert Stone gave seventy-five dollars to be used for prizes.

At a meeting of the Trustees it was voted to write to the Secretary of Agriculture supporting his position in proposing to do away with the quarantine on narcissi, a matter which had become very controversial. At the same time it was voted to award Medals to three men who had been active in educational work along horticultural lines: John C. Brodhead, assistant superintendent of Boston's schools; Charles M. Lamprey, director of the Martin school in Roxbury, and Richard J. Hayden, superintendent of the Boston Park System.

It was voted also to make the Hall again available for rummage sales. However, it seemed for a time as if the contents of attics and storerooms had been depleted, for no rentals of this kind were made throughout the year. This situation was not to continue, of course, and Horticultural Hall became once more the city's favorite location for rummage sales.

Some 490 volumes were added to the Library in 1935. The botany course led the Library Committee to strengthen that part of the book collection and to purchase a set of large-scale drawings and diagrams illustrating cultivated genera.

Dr. Ivan H. Crowell of Boston lectured on "The Diseases of Trees," in September, Professor Ralph W. Curtis of Cornell University lectured on "Trees for Decorative Purposes," in October and W. E. Marshall of New York City lectured on "Lilies," in November, this lecture being paid for from the William N. Craig Fund. One of the outstanding features of the Society's work was a course in gardening practice given by Mrs. Julia A. Latimer of Mamaroneck, N. Y., eight lectures in all. This course was largely attended and proved extremely popular.

An interesting experiment was made in March when the Hall was opened to the Dahlia Society of New England for a lecture on a Sunday afternoon. The experiment was a success, for the attendance was large, two-thirds of those present being men.

Professor Oakes Ames was awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1935, an award which was highly commended by all familiar with his work. He had been devoted to orchids through much of his life and at one time owned a large and im-

portant collection at his home in North Easton. When he decided to give his time to botany, he presented this collection to the New York Botanic Garden. He then built up one of the largest and strongest orchid herbaria in the world, comprising over 42,000 sheets. He also amassed a large scientific library. He was professor of botany at Harvard University and for many years was supervisor of the Arnold Arboretum, the Harvard Botanical Garden in Cuba and the Botanical Museum in Cambridge.

William N. Craig received the Thomas Roland Medal for skill in horticulture. This skill was a matter of wide knowledge, for Mr. Craig had long been recognized as among the most expert gardeners in the country. He had established his own nursery after many years as an estate superintendent and had written a popular book on the cultivation of lilies, a subject in which he was especially interested. Some years before, it will be remembered, he had established a fund with the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for arousing increased interest in lilies. The award from this fund in 1935 was a Medal which went to Arthur Grove of London, England.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal went to M. H. Horvath of Mentor, Ohio, a modest man whose work was not widely known, but who had been very successful in breeding roses, barberries and other woody plants.

There seemed to be renewed interest in gardening in 1935. At least that was the report of the Committee on Gardens, which received so many letters offering gardens for inspection that a zoning plan was decided on, specified sections of the state to be visited each year. At the same time the Committee found itself somewhat handicapped, as an unseasonable frost in late March had done much damage to Spring gardens. The year's awards when announced were as follows:

The Hunnewell Gold Medal to Russell Tyson of North Andover for an unusual estate.

A Gold Medal to Mrs. G. M. Lane for a sea-side garden in Manchester with attractive pools.

A Silver Medal to Mrs. John G. Coolidge for a rose garden and willow trees on her place at North Andover.

A Silver Medal to Mrs. Charles F. Ayer of Hamilton for the attractive surroundings of a swimming pool.

The Committee in its travels found several other gardens which it felt worthy of recognition. A very pretty small garden belonging to Mrs. Charles Norton of Annisquam received a Blue Ribbon Certificate.

A lovely small garden belonging to Mr. and Mrs. W. Endicott Dexter of Prides Crossing won a Blue Ribbon Certificate and a similar award went to Mrs. Ferris Greenslet for a garden in Ipswich which showed unusual originality and much promise for the future. Miss Margaret Cummings of Topsfield was awarded a Blue Ribbon Certificate for the variety of her gardens and their individual charm. Mrs. Charles Pease received a Garden Certificate for a garden in Melrose which showed great ingenuity in the planting of limited space.

The 1935 Year Book contained an important article by Miss Dorothy Manks, the Librarian, about the Society's collection of trade catalogues, something with which few members were familiar. The Society has made a systematic collection of such catalogues since 1880. When Miss Manks gave this report the catalogues file numbered 19,431, representing 2,327 firms. The file has a triple appeal—to collectors, to students and to buyers. It has proved its value many times through its use by authors and research workers. It provides original descriptions and dates of introduction. Duplicates from this collection formed the nucleus of the one in Washington.

Late in the year Paul Frese, assistant to the Secretary, resigned to accept a more lucrative position and later became editor of the *Flower Grower*. Mr. Frese had come into the Secretary's office some years before as a graduate of Massachusetts Agricultural College looking for a position with a florist. After some discussion he was offered a position with the Society and developed into an excellent writer and editor. He was succeeded by Miss Hazel Keener, formerly at the Ohio State University.

A rearrangement of the offices was then made so that Mr. Nehrling might have a room to himself. The exhibition work of the Society had expanded to such an extent that more space was needed for that department and Mr. Nehrling was able to carry

on the interviews in which he had constantly to be engaged under quieter conditions.

There was an exceptionally long necrology list in 1935. It ran to 128 names and included two Trustees, Jeré A. Downs and Harold Hill Blossom, both active and valuable members. Mr. Downs was a consistent exhibitor and his marvelous plant of Cymbidium Beatrice shown at the Spring Exhibition had won him the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase as the outstanding exhibit of the year. As Mr. Downs had passed away after the award had been voted, the vase was presented to his sister Miss Elizabeth S. Downs.

Mr. Blossom was active in arranging the Spring Exhibition, as has been noted. The Committee on Exhibitions felt itself fortunate in obtaining the services of his associate Veasey Peirce to carry on in his stead.

At the end of the year the Trustees voted to award a Gold Medal to Clifford Brown of Wellesley as the Albert C. Burrage Porch Prize for 1935.

The year closed with an excess of income over expenditures, as the Treasurer liked to put it, of $8,540.72. *Horticulture* contributed $558.63 to this total, the Spring Show paid well and the return from investments was $21,991. There was an increase of about $1,500 in membership fees and the rentals were better by $1,800. The year 1935 had been a good one.

1936—BLACK INK UNEXPECTEDLY TURNS RED

THERE was a feeling of high optimism throughout Horticultural Hall at the beginning of 1936. The previous year had closed with a balance of $8,540.72. The Autumn Show had made an unprecedented profit of $684.52. The membership had continued to grow and considerable interest in rentals was being shown. In this spirit the Trustees added $3,000 to the Show Insurance Fund, set aside $1,000 to establish a fund for recataloguing the Library, authorized the Secretary to purchase a new piano and instructed the Committee on Buildings, with Joseph E. Chandler as Chairman, to proceed with the renovation of Exhibition Hall as well as to make certain other improvements.

Then, in March, the floods came, just before the date of the Spring Show. They were, perhaps, the most disastrous floods ever experienced in New England and they changed the whole outlook of the Exhibition Committee almost over night. For a time, indeed, there seemed to be little likelihood that a Show would be held, but the Show Manager, Mr. Nehrling, and his assistants worked night and day for a week, while the exhibitors overcame enormous difficulties in getting their material to Mechanics Building. Thus the Show was set up and an extra day, Sunday, March 29, added for the benefit of flood victims. It happened to be the first warm Sunday of the season, however, and the attendance was disappointing. Still, it was possible to make a worth-while gift to the Red Cross—half of the day's receipts.

The Show was a good one but reaching the Hall was not easy for people outside the city and the profit was only $10,300.59. Albert A. Hulley won the President's Cup, along with a Gold Medal for a rose garden. Will C. Curtis set up a woodland scene in his inimitable manner, receiving both the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York and that of the Massachusetts Society. A group of cymbidiums won the Pennsylvania Horti-

cultural Society's Gold Medal and that of this Society for Miss Elizabeth A. Downs.

At the end of the year Mrs. Frederick F. Brewster was to be awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for the most outstanding exhibit at any of the Society's Shows in the course of the twelve months. Her exhibit, a beautiful tulip garden, was staged at the Spring Show under particularly difficult conditions, for all the material used had to be brought from Dublin, N. H., over roads and streams subject to the hazards of the March flood.

At the annual meeting in May the President, Mr. Webster, referred to the difficulties occasioned by the floods but was in no way disturbed by the loss in revenue. Times of prosperity and the lack of it had been recurrent throughout the Society's history of over a century, he said. Mr. Webster then went on to deprecate a widespread opinion that the Society was very wealthy and not in need of additional income. It was true, he said, that the Society could make money for a time if it made no effort to carry out the fundamental purposes for which it was organized. But then its membership would dwindle and its influence decay. Mr. Webster expressed the belief that the Spring Show, having been put on a business basis, could be expected in normal years to provide the funds necessary for staging free Shows throughout the Summer. He closed his remarks by saying that a Budget Committee had been appointed and that all receipts and expenditures were being carefully audited.

When making his report at the annual meeting, William Ellery, Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions, stated that the decision of the Committee to have the comments of the judges made public on the exhibitors' cards had been well received and expressed the belief that the custom would tend to improve the exhibits.[1] Mr. Ellery also referred to the point system which had been adopted for judging, saying that it had been under fire and sometimes justly. He was confident, however, that whatever faults seemed to exist did not lie in the system itself but in its misapplication and said that certain changes were being made to obtain a more nearly perfect operation of the plan.

The Daffodil Show, started in 1934 but skipped the next year,

[1] The plan has been continued to some extent to the present time.

Frontispiece of a Rare Book in the Library of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society

John S. Ames, Elected President of the Society in 1944

was resumed in 1946 and well attended. A lecture by Mrs. F. Stuart Foote of Grand Rapids, Mich., with "Daffodils" as her subject was made a feature of the Show and was well received. The Summer Shows were held under adverse weather conditions which limited the attendance. As part of a new plan, instituted in 1931 as noted, the Gladiolus Show and the Dahlia Show were placed in the hands of the two societies specializing in these flowers.[2]

The usual Fruit and Vegetable Show was omitted in 1936, in order that greater emphasis might be placed on the Autumn Show, at which time the Society was host to the American Orchid Society. It proved to be one of the best late-season Shows in years, with an attendance of 20,000 persons.

As noted, the Trustees set aside $1,000 in January to begin the reclassification and recataloguing of the Library. Such a task was obviously needed, for the system then in use had been installed thirty years before. It was to be a tedious undertaking, however, going along, of course, with the regular Library activities.[3] A hint of these activities comes from the fact that 800 seed and plant catalogues from twenty-one different countries had been received the previous year, all of them requiring to be inspected and filed. This is not an unimportant matter, for questions as to where certain rare seeds or plants are to be obtained come continually to the Librarians. It would be difficult to find some of the answers anywhere else. A card index started at about the time we are considering gradually developed into an important adjunct of the Society's work.

An important vote by the Trustees late in the year required that First-class Certificates should be given only to plants which had previously received an Award of Merit, a rule still in effect. Another vote of the Trustees favored the encouragement of wildflower propagation by nurserymen, with awards to stimulate this work. It was felt that this was one of the best ways to aid in

[2] The plan proved so successful that it has been adhered to. To be sure, the Dahlia Show is no longer held, inasmuch as the popularity of this flower seems to have waned in New England and the Dahlia Society has become inactive, but iris specialists soon began showing under the new arrangement, with the Horticultural Society making all its facilities available without cost.

[3] The work was not started until 1939 and was interrupted for several years by the War.

the preservation of wild plants in their native habitats. The records do not show, however, that the making of such awards was long continued.

The basement of Horticultural Hall has a section commonly called the "catacombs." By making many changes there and by lowering the freight elevator, provision was made for the storage of peat moss, tables, horses and many tons of rocks needed for exhibition purposes. A well-equipped carpenter and paint shop was also installed.

Getting rid of the pigeons and starlings, thousands of which had infested the building for several years was a problem which the Building Committee finally solved by having the various roosting places painted with a substance which was too sticky to be comfortable. Although the desired purpose was accomplished, at least for the time being, it was not without a certain amount of notoriety when one pigeon was found on the sidewalk dead.[4]

The Society had much to offer the public in 1936, making its position as an educational institution secure. A course of lectures by Mrs. Julia A. Latimer of Mamaroneck, N. Y., her second, was well attended. Monthly lectures and exhibits were carried through the Winter in cooperation with the Gardeners' and Florists' Club of Boston. Edward C. Newell, President of the Massachusetts School of Art, gave two lectures on flower arrangement, as well as conducting a course under the auspices of the State Department of Education. Perhaps the most notable lecture was that of Miss Margaret Preininger of Los Angeles, with "Japanese Flower Arrangements" as her subject.

Harlan P. Kelsey, selected to receive the George Robert White Medal of Honor of 1936, was a man who had won a high place in many branches of horticulture. As a nurseryman he had introduced many important new plants, particularly those of the Southern Allegheny Mountain region. He was perhaps the first nurseryman of importance to campaign for the use of hardy American plants in American gardens. He was a member of the

[4] The pigeon problem has repeatedly reappeared at intervals, largely because of women who insist upon throwing bread on the sidewalk for the birds, regardless of requests that they desist from so doing.

original committee responsible for "Standardized Plant Names." He was a member of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission which selected three new national parks—Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, the Great Smoky National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee, and Mammoth Cave National Park. For many years he was special advisor to the National Park Service. He was for two years President of the Appalachian Mountain Club, two years President of the American Association of Nurserymen, and the first President of the Massachusetts Federation of Planning Boards. He succeeded Ernest H. Wilson as President of the Horticultural Club of Boston and was an active member of the Massachusetts Trustees of Public Reservation. He was given an honorary degree by Harvard University. And this brief summary touches only the high points of his remarkable career.

The Thomas Roland Medal was awarded Elmer D. Smith of Adrian, Mich., who may well be called the father of the modern chrysanthemum in America, although he had done much important work with other flowers.

Robert M. Grey, awarded the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal, was not widely known, but had done much important work as Superintendent of the Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum at Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba. He had been retired when this award was made.

Norman Taylor won the Society's Gold Medal, largely for his work as editor of the "Garden Dictionary." A Gold Medal was awarded also to Rufus Witaker Stimson for a distinguished career of leadership in the training of youth for agricultural pursuits. He was Supervisor of Agricultural Education in Massachusetts for twenty-four years and was due for retirement in 1938.

An attractive porch added to the residence of Mrs. Charles S. Jenney in Brookline won for Mrs. Jenney the Albert C. Burrage Porch Prize for 1936.

There were seventy-nine names in the necrology list of 1936, among them that of William C. Endicott, who was President of the Society in the years 1919 and 1920. This was during a period of readjustment when acumen, patience and devotion were greatly

needed. The membership was only a thousand. Fruit displays had become meagre, for growers were hampered by a shortage of labor and poor transportation. There was disagreement within the Society as to the course which should be pursued. Some influential members complained that the Society was becoming too floricultural. The growing absence of commercial men from the committees was being criticized. It was a situation such as might be expected at the close of a world war. Mr. Endicott dealt with it wisely and patiently, reconciling differences and pointing to greater progress through increased service to the public by means of Shows and other avenues to horticultural knowledge. Mr. Benson writes: "The reconstruction Mr. Endicott accomplished was firm and complete." An excellent portrait of Mr. Endicott, given to the Society by his widow, hangs in Horticultural Hall.

The optimism in evidence at the beginning of the year had faded by the time the books were closed. Indeed, not much of it had been left after the Spring Show had ended, the profit having been very small because of weather conditions, as has been noted. The deficit, already mentioned, was set at $72.58, but it had been necessary to draw on the Show Insurance Fund for $2,800 to bring the Treasurer's books even close to balancing. Thus, of the $3,000 added to the Fund at the beginning of the year, only $200 remained when the year had reached its end. This was an abnormal situation, of course; the rest of the Society's activities had been on a very satisfactory basis.

1937—LORD ABERCONWAY SEES AN UNUSUAL SHOW

LORD ABERCONWAY'S visit was considered, doubtless, the horticultural highpoint of 1937 in Boston. As President of the Royal Horticultural Society, Lord Aberconway had world-wide prestige, but he was a notable figure apart from that distinction. His estate was one of the best in England and his knowledge of plants astonishing. Although Lord Aberconway visited all three of the great Spring Shows, he came to this country on the invitation of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and it was through this Society that all the preliminary arrangements were made. It should be said in this connection that the late William H. Judd of the Arnold Arboretum, a personal friend of Lord Aberconway, made the original suggestion to his lordship and that much of the credit for this visit, the first official visit of the kind in the history of the three societies, is due him.

Lord Aberconway seemed to be much impressed with the Shows but expressed surprise that salesmen with pencil and pad were not to be found at each exhibit as in England. This is a practice which, of course, has always been frowned on in this country.

A dinner for the members of the Society was held in Horticultural Hall at the time of the Spring Show, the first dinner of the kind in fifty years. Lord Aberconway was one of the speakers and made a delightful address, with unexpected reference to some events which took place in the early history of the Society. The dinner offered an excellent opportunity for the presentation of the President's Cup, which had been won by Thomas Roland, Inc. of Nahant, for a splendid exhibit of acacias. Robert Roland accepted the cup for his firm. Another interesting event at the dinner was the presentation to Mr. Webster, as President of the Society, of a Medal from the Holland Bulb Exporters Associa-

tion. John Scheepers of New York acted as spokesman for the association.

The Spring Show itself, which may well be considered here, was offered with a certain amount of misgiving, for the experiment was being tried of building Grand Hall into a single unit—a picture of Holland with a wide canal extending the length of the hall. The plan, suggested by Wilfrid Wheeler of the Exhibition Committee, brought many problems to Mr. Nehrling as Exhibition Manager, but he was fortunate in obtaining the services of Egbert Hans, an artist combining imagination with skill. Mr. Hans painted all the scenic backgrounds in Grand Hall, helping to create a remarkably realistic Dutch village. His work was so expertly done that the Society awarded him its Gold Medal. The Show increased the Society's income for the year by $23,941.01.

One of the prizes at the Spring Show was a magnificent gold-lined Silver Cup presented by the Royal Horticultural Society to be awarded to the amateur exhibit showing the greatest skill in culture and arrangement. This cup, a fine old English piece, was won by the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum for a rare and unusual collection of *Jasminum nudiflorum*. This seems to be a good place to note that Lord Aberconway himself was voted the Society's large Gold Medal to mark his visit, although technically it was for his distinguished service to horticulture.

The Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York was awarded the Cape Ann Garden Club, while the Gold Medal of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society went to the L. Sherman Adams Company for a group of orchids.

The 1937 annual meeting stands out from all similar gatherings in the Society's history for it was attended by more members than any other annual meeting before or since. The reason was plain. The fact had been learned in advance that the name of a second candidate for President, that of Will C. Curtis, would be found on the ballot. It was the first time for decades at least that there had been competition for any office. When the polls were closed 577 ballots had been cast and Mr. Webster was found to have been reelected by an overwhelming majority.

In his address at this meeting Mr. Webster reviewed the So-

ciety's activities in the light of changing times. He stressed the need of flexible programs and in particular the purpose to be of service to all people, members and non-members alike. "It is a matter of comment," he said "that visitors to the Library and to the various offices are invariably treated with courtesy and consideration—no matter whether they be estate owners or the humblest of employes . . ." He also mentioned that the Society was still maintaining an employment bureau for the assistance of gardeners seeking positions, this service being free. As a matter of fact, this branch of the Society's work, under the direction of Mr. Geehan, had become so satisfactory that most other Boston agencies were sending their applicants to Horticultural Hall.

The Secretary's report at this meeting showed the membership hovering around the nine thousand mark, with a good prospect of passing it before the end of the year. With increasing membership, however, there came need for additional working space. The Trustees had voted, therefore, to construct another large room on the third floor and to extend the elevator to that floor. Provision was made for a door into a third room, if such a room should be needed in the course of time. Before the next annual meeting Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby was to present the Society a dozen new chairs for this room, as well as several pictures. Pictures came, too, from Wilfrid Wheeler, who also gave the Society two handsome metal vases, which found a place in the Secretary's office. Previously Mr. Wheeler had presented the Library a large glass case designed for the display of curios. A stand for this case was constructed under the direction of Mr. Cummings, Chairman of the Building Committee, and it was then placed in a corner of the Library, being used to contain replicas of the President's Cup and the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase, along with the Beacon Hill Garden Club's Cup and many medals.[1]

The Year Book for 1937 contained an exceptionally comprehensive list of unusual flowering and fruiting shrubs hardy in New England and suitable for gardens in this section. It was prepared by Harlan P. Kelsey, then a Trustee of the Society, and his son Seth, who was to become a Trustee in later years. This list may be examined in the Library at Horticultural Hall.

[1] This exhibit of the Society's trophies continues to interest many visitors.

The Year Book also contained a remarkable chart which was prepared by Professor Oakes Ames showing the botanical background of horticulture and the relation of economic botany to gardening. Any visitor to the Library may examine this chart.

It was voted by the Trustees in 1937 to completely revise the By-Laws and submit them to the Society members at the annual meeting in 1938. A committee consisting of Messrs. Carter, Ames, Ellery, Hunnewell and Roland was appointed to undertake this work.

After much debate, extending over several meetings, the Trustees voted to make garden club exhibits eligible for sweepstake prizes at the Spring Show. Another important action was the adoption of a rule that orchids which are submitted for exhibition must have been the property of the exhibitor for at least one year.

The Society had continued to co-operate with the Gardeners' and Florists' Club in putting on monthly meetings with lectures, but the number of plants sent in for inspection had been growing smaller. The inference was that the gardeners were beginning to tire of making two trips a month to the Hall. There was a series of lectures in a science course conducted by the National Gardeners' Association, and another series, this one by Robert Sturtevant on "Home Garden Design" under the auspices of the State Department of Education.

The Spring Show has been dealt with at some length in connection with the visit of Lord Aberconway but some attention should be given the smaller shows of 1937. Wilfrid Wheeler had succeeded Harold Ross as Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions and liked the Daffodil Exhibition in April so well that he thought it should become a regular part of the schedule.[2]

Although the June Show was primarily designed for peony displays, it was made notable by a remarkable exhibit of hardy lilies by John Scheepers of New York. Said Mr. Wheeler, "It is doubtful if ever before at any Exhibition of our Society has such a variety of liliums been exhibited by one person." Mr. Scheepers

[2] This was to happen but the date was to be changed to coincide with that of the annual meeting in May and this arrangement has been continued to the present time, serving the excellent purpose of increasing the attendance at the annual meeting.

Edward I. Farrington, Secretary from 1924 to 1947

A Part of the Estate in Milton for Which Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey G. Whitney were Awarded the H. H. Hunnewell Medal in 1930.

was quite properly awarded the Society's Gold Medal for this exhibit.

The New York Experiment Station at Geneva brought to Boston a remarkable exhibit of seedling grapes for the October Show. It aroused much interest, too, with an exhibit of hazel nuts, displaying some fifty seedlings.

The wide variation in the climate of Massachusetts was brought into perspective at the Autumn Show, for splendid hybrid tea roses grown out of doors in Falmouth were among the exhibits, along with much greenhouse material. It was a colorful Show and a garden featuring chrysanthemums set up for Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield of Marblehead by her very capable gardener Thomas Murray was awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase as the most outstanding exhibit of the year, not excepting any of those at the Spring Show.

When the special medal awards were announced late in the year it was found that the coveted George Robert White Medal of Honor had gone to Frederick Law Olmsted, a distinguished landscape architect of Brookline.

The Thomas Roland Medal, awarded for skill in horticulture, went to Dr. A. B. Stout of the New York Botanical Garden, special emphasis being laid on his work in the breeding and propagation of daylilies.

J. E. Spingarn, known far and wide for his work with clematis, which he helped through his writing to make popular, received the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal. Richard Wellington, who had been responsible for the attractive fruit exhibits from the Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y. at the Society's Shows, and who had been eminently successful in fruit breeding, was awarded the Society's large Gold Medal. A similar Medal went to Dr. Alfred Rehder, curator of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. Dr. Rehder ranked as one of the great botanists of his time and his stature grew with each passing year. His book, Manual of Trees and Shrubs, is found on the desks of practicing horticulturists throughout the land.

The H. H. Hunnewell Gold Medal, which is only given for estates, was awarded to Mrs. William Hewson Baltzell for her place in Dover known as "Elm Bank."

A Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. George D. Forbes of North Egremont for her estate known as "Orchard Farm" and another to Mrs. Charles C. Griswold for her estate at Stockbridge called "Hillhouse."

It was voted to award a Blue Ribbon Certificate to a garden at Westfield, Mass., known as "Grandmother's Garden" and maintained as a public project. This garden, colonial in type, was developed under the direction of Mrs. Albert E. Fowler, the design being drawn by Thomas Desmond of Simsbury, Conn. The garden, still in existence, is surrounded by a traditional white picket fence, and the paths are paved with stones from old walls. A sundial in the center rests on an ancient millstone and from it radiate beds bordered with handmade bricks. In the planting are herb and lily gardens. The garden was named in honor of a woman widely known as Grandmother Steiger, an enthusiastic gardener during her long life.

A Blue Ribbon Certificate was also voted to Alfred H. Marchant of Winchester, Mass., for an extensive wild garden.

An unusual award was that of a Blue Ribbon Certificate to a circle at the corner of two streets in Brookline which had been planted with exceptional skill and good taste. The design for the planting was made by Sidney Shurcliff, landscape architect of Boston, and work was done by the Brookline Committee on Planting Trees, E. B. Dane, chairman.

Two other rather exceptional awards were made. One was a Garden Certificate given to the City of Newton, Mass., for excellent planting around the new city hall. The other was a Garden Certificate to the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company of Springfield, Mass., for the planting of the grounds around the home of that organization. It was felt that these two plantings were inspirational and that attention should be called to them.

The year 1937 closed was a favorable balance of $2,880.79, although *Horticulture* had lost $182.05, and the Fall Show $1,026.74, and with a new Trustee in the person of Robert Roland.

1938—A TRANQUIL YEAR ENDS WITH A HURRICANE

IT WAS a tranquil year on which the Society entered in January of 1938, although certain disturbing undercurrents were to reach the surface at the year's end. The number of members had finally passed the nine thousand mark and the Secretary was dreaming of 10,000 in the months ahead.

The Spring Show opened auspiciously and made a profit of $19,458.50, which amount was considered reasonably satisfactory in view of the times, although down four thousand dollars from the previous year. The attendance fluctuated, as several days were warm and sunny, but on Friday 22,000 persons crowded into the halls, the largest number for any one day on record at that time. Perhaps the word "crowded" should be used cautiously, however, for the aisles had been so broadened and the exhibits so arranged that very little congestion was felt in spite of the large attendance. This was a measure to which the Exhibition Committee and the Show Manager had given much thought. It had been necessary to make a slight reduction in the number of exhibits but the Show had not suffered from that fact and abundant color pleased the public.

Grand Hall had again been treated as a unit, with a modern country house surrounded by modern gardens, and again Egbert Hans had been helpful. The grouping of long-stemmed roses in tall vases in Paul Revere Hall, so placed that visitors could walk around them, excited much favorable comment.

One of the most important events of the year was the adoption of new By-Laws at the annual meeting in May. This was to keep abreast of changes taking place since the publication of the By-Laws formulated under the direction of Mr. Burrage in 1930. These newer By-Laws are still in force at this writing, although

several important amendments have been added. They may be consulted at any time, of course, at Horticultural Hall.

In his address at the annual meeting President Webster discussed several matters that had been called to his attention. He said that some of the older members had wondered at the size of the staff in the Hall and the extent of their activities. He thought that these people might have in mind the years not long before when the Society's work was carried on by the Secretary and the Librarian along with a janitor and when all correspondence was done with pen and ink. Mr. Webster then said that the Society had not become less prosperous because of its increased activities but had paid its way through its period of expansion and was better off financially than when it had only a thousand members and three employes. He expressed his pride in the building as one of the city's architectural landmarks, but wished that there might be a canopy or marquee over the entrance to mark the entrance doors and provide a greater feeling of friendliness.

Mr. Wheeler made his final report as Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions. He had given full support to the Spring Shows, but had a lingering doubt as to the course being pursued. He remembered the successful Show at Horticultural Hall in 1932 and wondered if the huge effort and expenditure at Mechanics Building were justified.

William Ellery, speaking for the Prize Committee, recommended that the Gold Medal be given only to exhibits of exceptional distinction. The Committee felt that Silver Medals should be awarded for exhibits of outstanding merit and Bronze Medals for those of high average value, all this to make the Silver and Bronze Medals more highly appreciated. A plan whereby the score was made the basis of medal awards had been eliminated but this had not reduced the number of medals bestowed by the judges. It may be said that much difficulty was found in putting Mr. Ellery's recommendations into effect. Exhibitors continued to feel that a high score should merit a Gold Medal.

Another recommendation, however, was put into immediate effect and has been continued. It requires that the awarding of the Society's medals be postponed until after the first day of the

Show, thus prolonging the interest of the exhibitors and the public and making the work of the judges less arduous.

Mr. Webster was reelected President at the annual meeting. Dr. Elmer D. Merrill and William P. Walcott were added to the Board of Trustees at this meeting. Later Winthrop L. Carter was chosen to fill out the unexpired term of Robert H. Roland, who had resigned to become Secretary of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists with headquarters in Chicago. James Methven was promoted to be Chairman of the Committee on Prizes, which position Mr. Roland had held, and Edward Norberg was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Committee.

The Library had a busy year. Five hundred more books than in 1937 were borrowed, a total of 5,222. The increase in the number of books circulated by mail was noticeable and yet a greater number of people visited the reading room. The Librarian reported a surprising demand for material on special genera and groups of plants, uncovering a weakness in the Library's resources which needed to be strengthened. Opening the Library in the evening during the Fall Shows proved a successful experiment, with many interested visitors, some of whom had not known before that such a Library existed. A Society booth at the Spring Show, manned by members of the Library staff had become wholly worthwhile.

Business conditions were not good in 1938 but *Horticulture* made slow gains, with a circulation exceeding 30,000. Advertising shrank a little but subscriptions were up $3,000. The paper had a net income of $409.

Mr. Nehrling was elected President of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists in 1938 and presided at the annual meeting in Toronto. He was presented a chest of silver as a tribute to his work as President.

The Benevolent Fraternity Fruit and Flower Mission began its seventieth year of activity in 1938. This well-seasoned organization had started occupying a room rent free in Horticultural Hall at the invitation of the Board of Trustees in 1925. Mrs. Emily I. Elliott, the efficient Executive Secretary, in her annual report appearing in the Year Book of the Society, men-

tioned the extreme heat of the 1937 Summer, but said it had not seriously reduced the number of hampers, boxes and baskets from outlying towns. The number was 705 as against 719 the previous year. All this material, largely in the form of cut flowers, was made into bouquets as usual by volunteer labor and delivered to hospitals, old peoples' home and shut-ins. The Lexington Field and Garden Club sent in sixty-three Christmas wreaths, along with "apple Christmas trees" with miniature trimmings and many gifts. More than 15,000 carnations were received from the American Carnation Society. Eighteen women helped in the distribution after the Gladiolus Show on the Summer's hottest day—98 degrees. Thirty-five elderly individuals were provided tickets for the Spring Show through the kindness of friends. The part taken by the Society in this good work is not to be overlooked.

News of the death of Nathaniel T. Kidder in July of 1938 was received with deep sorrow, for Mr. Kidder had been a wheelhorse in the management of the Society's affairs for many years. He served as President from 1903 through 1905 and became Chairman of the Library Committee following the death of Professor Charles S. Sargent in 1927. He had been elected a Trustee in 1910 and had won many prizes at the Society's exhibitions and for his estate. He bequeathed $5,000 to the Society for the benefit of the Library as well as a collection of books and several paintings.

In the course of the year the Society lost another member, who had kept its interests close to his heart. Edwin Hale Lincoln of Pittsfield was killed by an automobile at the age of ninety. He had won fame for his work in photographing wild flowers and was given a Silver Medal in 1929. Under an arrangement previously made, the Society inherited some two thousand negatives, mostly 8 x 10 glass plates, which were moved to Horticultural Hall and stored in a darkroom which had been improvised from unused space under the third-story floor.

Charles J. Sander was yet another member of prominence who passed away in 1938. Mr. Sander, who joined the Society in 1897, was superintendent of Professor Sargent's estate, Holm Lea, in Brookline for fifty-three years. Previously he had worked for Francis Parkman, the famous historian, who was at one time

President of the Society. Mr. Sander had received seven Gold Medals, including the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal.

As usual near the close of the year, the Trustees announced various awards based on committee recommendations. The coveted George Robert White Medal of Honor went rather unexpectedly to Robert Moses, park commissioner of New York City. Mr. Moses was not commonly thought of as a great horticulturist, but the Committee on Special Medals felt that his work in extending the park system of New York, in the planting and preservation of trees and in teaching the love of nature to the younger generation had made him a logical recipient of this award.

Alex Cummings of Bristol, Conn., received the Thomas Roland Medal, having gained a wide reputation for his success in developing Korean hybrid chrysanthemums as well as for his work with other perennials. The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal went to Joseph G. Gable of Stewartstown, Pa., for his work as a hybridizer and propagator of rhododendons.

The Gold Medal of the Society was awarded Professor Edward A. White of Cornell University with this citation: "His teaching over a long term of years has had a profound influence on the lives of many horticultural students." A Gold Medal was awarded David Fairchild of Coconut Grove, Fla. for his great work in the introduction of new fruits.

A Gold Medal went to Cherry Hill Nurseries of West Newbury for many years of valued support, especially at the Peony Shows. A Gold Medal was given John C. Wister, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, adding to his many honors. Mr. Wister was and is well known as an iris, peony and bulb authority, the author of several books, an expert landscape architect and a man of high horticultural standing.[1]

The Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase was awarded Mr. and Mrs. Ben: Perley Poore Mosely of Ipswich for an azalea garden set up by them at the Spring Show, this being considered the outstanding exhibit of the year at any of the Shows. The Albert C. Burrage Porch Prize went to Miss Alice G. Higgins of Newburyport for a porch attached to her house during the year and overlooking a garden.

[1] He relinquished his position as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Society in 1952.

A Gold Medal from the William N. Craig Lily Fund was voted Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Van Beuren of Newport, R. I. as a special award for their exhibit at the Spring Show in 1938. This exhibit was so outstanding that Joseph A. Winsock, superintendent for Mr. and Mrs. Van Beuren, was awarded a special Gold Certificate for his exceptional skill in the forcing of thirty lily varieties into full flower at one time—something never before recorded. Mr. Winsock was an especially able gardener who often exhibited in Horticultural Hall as well as at Mechanics Building and who managed a large and elaborate estate at Newport. Later he was brutally murdered for no apparent reason in one of the greenhouses on the estate.

The recommendations of the Garden Committee were acted upon favorably as follows:

The award of the H. H. Hunnewell Gold Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Whitney of Milton for an estate "of unusual excellence, containing gardens of several types and planted with much choice material."

The award of the Society's Gold Medal to Appleton Farms, Ipswich, "a farmstead for three centuries, tilled and cherished as an habitation by the Appleton family."

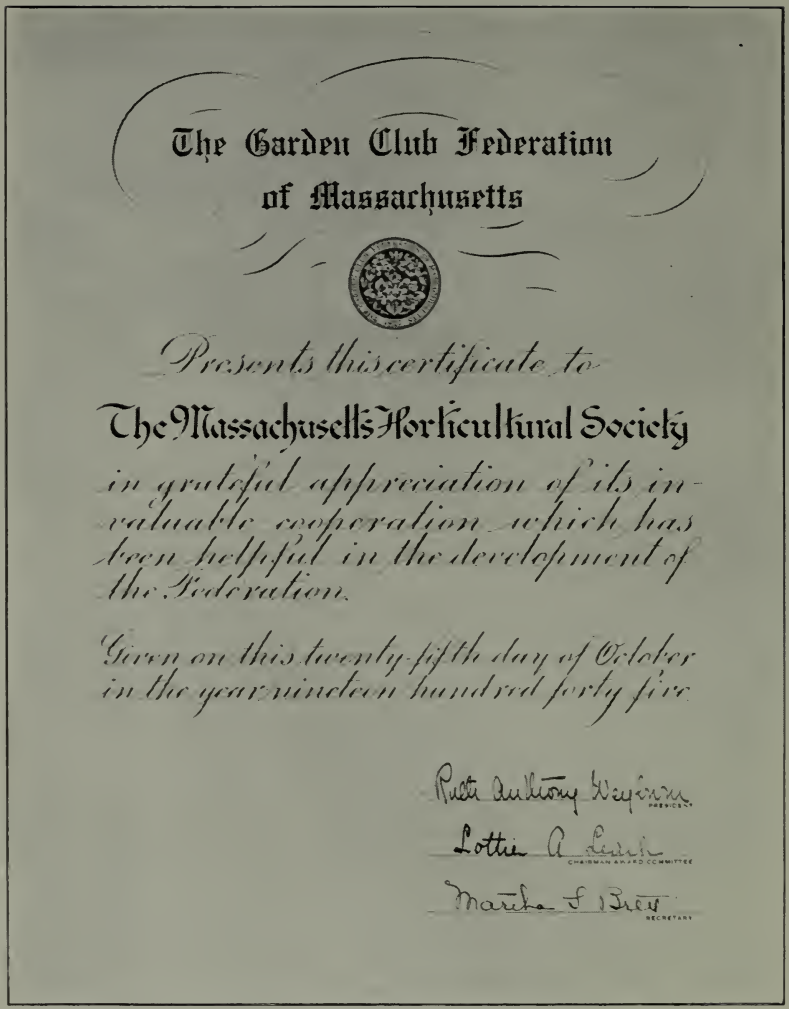
The award of the Society's Gold Medal to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum "for the garden court which it contains and the high quality of the plants shown there."

The award of a Blue Ribbon Certificate to Mrs. Lindsley Loring of Westwood for "a large collection of irises grown by an amateur."

In September of 1938 New England was swept by a devastating hurricane which did an immense amount of damage to horticultural property and from which many members of the Society suffered loss, particularly in the matter of ornamentals. Accordingly it seemed helpful to have Dr. E. P. Felt of Stamford, Conn., deliver a lecture on "What To Do About Your Trees." Dr. Felt, a recognized expert, gave his listeners much useful advice. This was the first major hurricane in New England for a hundred years. Many months were required for the restoration of gardens and estates. Miss Keener resigned as associate editor.

In November George L. Fischer of Maplewood, N. J. lectured

The Garden of Mrs. Charles D. Armstrong at Osterville, for Which a Gold Medal was Awarded in 1941.



The Garden Club Federation
of Massachusetts

Presents this certificate to

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society

in grateful appreciation of its invaluable cooperation which has been helpful in the development of the Federation.

Given on this twenty-fifth day of October in the year nineteen hundred forty five

Ruth Anthony Weyhrauch
PRESIDENT

Lottie A. Leach
CHAIRMAN AWARD COMMITTEE

Martha S. Brett
SECRETARY

Scroll Awarded to the Society in 1945 by the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts.

on "Gourds and Gourd Culture," this lecture being given in cooperation with the New England Gourd Society, which had become a very active organization.

The Library made one purchase of such importance that it should have special mention. It was Jean Simon Lerner's "Figures des Plantes Economiques," which included hundreds of flowers and vegetables of the late 18th century in eight volumes. The set remains a rare item.

There were two noteworthy gifts. One was the library of the late William J. Stewart, presented by his daughter, Mrs. Ellen Stewart Crouse. Mr. Stewart was well known as the founder of *Horticulture* and its editor for many years. The second gift was the Frances Torrey Norton Memorial from the Herb Society of America, a collection of books of special interest to persons growing herbs.

Much had taken place in 1938 but unfortunately the year ended with a deficit of $2,333.77.

1939—THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES TAKES DRASTIC ACTION

SOME cold, hard and rather unpleasant facts confronted the Trustees when they met for their first session in January of 1939. Business conditions were not good. Europe was having a war. The income from investments was shrinking. There was red ink in the books of the Treasurer. In addition, memberships had failed to show an increase for the first time since Mr. Farrington became Secretary. Instead there had been a small decline, falling below 9,000. Thus the 10,000 mark, a dream of the year before, had gone aglimmering.

The Trustees took what seemed the one obvious path by which to meet the situation. They voted to recommend at the annual meeting in May that the dues be raised from two dollars to three dollars. In the meantime they were obliged to take measures which would make such a change possible, for the dues of the Society, strange as it may seem, are fixed by law. The articles of incorporation, as of 1829, set the dues at two dollars and there they had remained for more than a century. It is to be remembered, however, that this amount made the dues seem fairly high 125 years ago.

At times the Society had tried to increase its membership income by imposing initiation fees, but that plan had merely reduced the number of membership applications. Now it was necessary to go to the General Court again and a bill was introduced through a friendly member permitting the dues to be raised to a sum not exceeding five dollars. The five-dollar limit was wisely decided on because of possible future contingencies. The bill was passed and the governor signed it.

The increase of one dollar was accepted at the annual meeting by a vote of 101 to 11. Then began a downward curve in

membership which lasted until 1942, when a low point of 6,850 was reached. From then on the curve was upward again, although the number of life members continued to decline.

James Methven, now Chairman of the Committee on Prizes, revealed some of the aims and methods of his group, surprising many members by stating that as many as 122 judges had worked at the eight Shows of the year. He explained that before each Show the Committee met and discussed the possible choices at some length. An attempt was made to avoid using the same judges year after year. Information on the men available as judges was to be found in an excellent card index which had proved very useful. This was an arrangement worked out by a previous Committee under the direction of William Ellery, to whom, Mr. Methven said, his Committee was greatly indebted.

Robert Stone had to report, as Chairman of the Committee on Lectures and Publications, that business conditions had not been favorable for magazine expansion, although *Horticulture* had not suffered greatly. There had been a backward season, which had affected advertising, but the subscription income was $3,000 greater than in the previous year. About $800 had come in from the sale of books. "The Gardener's Travel Book" by E. I. Farrington was being widely distributed. Mrs. Hollis Webster's book on herbs and Mrs. H. H. Buxton's begonia book, sponsored by the Society, were outstanding. Mr. Stone emphasized that the publication of a magazine with a national circulation is a business in itself, with ramifications covering many fields. He pointed out, however, that it worked in particularly well with the activities at Horticultural Hall, offering an oportunity to present the Society's work to thousands of persons who otherwise would know nothing about it. He said that *Horticulture* had been of great benefit in building up the membership of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the Horticultural Society of New York, as well as that of the home organization.

An important lecture was given in January in co-operation with the New England Wild Flower Preservation Society. The speaker was Dr. W. H. Camp of the New York Botanical Garden, his subject being "Hunting Wild Flowers in Mexico." In April

George L. Slate of the State Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y. lectured on "Lilies and How to Grow Them." Mr. Slate is the son-in-law of the late Dr. Ernest H. Wilson.

A Camellia Show in January had now become established. Although small and held in the side hall, the material shown was excellent.

The Daffodil Show had become a permanent event, on the day of the annual meeting and the day after. A third day was added in 1939 for a display of azaleas from Ernest Borowski's greenhouse. About 3,100 came to see this Show. The Tulip Show, established the year before, when it was separated from the Daffodil Show, attracted 2,745 visitors.

The garden clubs took over Grand Hall at the Spring Exhibition in 1939 with a unified exhibit of great charm. A colonial house on the stage faced an attractive garden with a fountain. Both the house and the fountain were designed by Miss Helen Brown of the Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture for Women. A knot garden set up by Sherman Eddy of Hartford was one of the features of this Show. Another was an azalea exhibit which won the Gold Medals of both the Horticultural Society of New York and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for Ernest Borowski. Albert A. Hulley staged such an attractive rose garden that it won the President's Cup and the trophy of the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture. The Garden Club of America awarded the Sarah Todd Bulkley Silver Medal to Mrs. Irving C. Wright, Chairman of the Massachusetts Garden Clubs Exhibition Committee, and the Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society went to the entire committee for the "horticultural excellence and tasteful design" of the house and garden in Grand Hall. The Spring Show was attended by 86,199 visitors and made a profit of $16,668.85.

This was a period when certain estate owners and some gardeners were devoting their best efforts to decorative and even dramatic displays of fruits and vegetables, arranging them in what was commonly known as the English style. One of the best of such displays was seen at the 1939 show. It was set up for Dr. Thomas Barbour by his gardener, Louis Campagnolo, and attracted much

attention. A few years later this type of exhibit had ceased to appear, partly because of the expense involved but also because few men capable of doing the work could be found. These changes are inevitable. In this period the huge bomb chrysanthemums with a single flower to a stem which had long been featured at Autumn Shows were disappearing. It was costing a dollar a flower to produce them, and they required an undue amount of greenhouse space.

The attendance of 7,611 at the Fruit and Vegetable Show was considered good. As a matter of fact it topped by six hundred that at the Autumn Show. The latter was a beautiful Show, nevertheless, including as it did a chrysanthemum garden set up by Peter Arnott for Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Webster which was awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase as the most outstanding exhibit of the year at any of the Society's Shows. A second very lovely chrysanthemum garden was arranged for Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield. Good as this Show was, it had a net loss of $1,077.74.

The Committee on Special Medals, of which Oakes Ames was Chairman, made its annual recommendations to the Trustees in September and they were immediately adopted. Dr. George T. Moore, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, was awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor for eminent service to horticulture as shown by his work in developing and maintaining one of the world's most important botanical and horticultural institutions.

August Koch, the recipient of the Thomas Roland Medal, had just been retired as head of the Chicago Park System, due to age limitations. He, like Dr. Moore, combined horticultural skill with unusual executive ability. The park system of Chicago grew to remarkable proportions during his long term of office and he helped to build a collection of conservatory plants at Garfield Park unequalled anywhere else in the country.

It was quite appropriate that the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal should go to Walter D. Brownell of Little Compton, R. I., as Mr. Dawson, like Mr. Brownell, was especially interested in the hybridization of roses. Mr. Brownell's work along this line

had been highly scientific, resulting in the development of climbing and bush roses suited to the colder sections of the country under the name of sub-zero varieties.

In awarding its large Gold Medal to Dr. William A. Taylor of Washington, D. C. the Society bestowed an honor which perhaps should have gone to him years before, for he was now retired after long and valuable service as head of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

To Colonel R. H. Montgomery of Coconut Grove, Fla., went the Society's Medal because, although as an amateur, he had built up one of the finest collections of tropical and semi-tropical plants to be found in this country, assembling them at what is now called the Fairchild Tropical Garden at Coconut Grove, Fla.

There are some persons whose contributions are more or less anonymous, but none the less important. As Executive Secretary of the Horticultural Society of New York Mrs. Elizabeth Peterson was long the moving spirit in much of that Society's activities. She had done much to promote the success of the International Flower Show in New York and her assistance to the garden clubs in the New York area will be attested by the members of those organizations. She was awarded a Gold Medal.

As a kind of anomaly the demands on the Society for information, advice and help in various other ways greatly increased in 1939, even while the list of members was becoming smaller. In particular, additional space was needed by various organizations which wished to establish headquarters at Horticultural Hall. This need was met by flooring over the upper part of the smaller exhibition hall, which was a very lofty room, in this way providing office space for the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, the Boston Mycological Club, the New England Gourd Society, the New England Gladiolus Society and the Herb Society of America. The garden clubs had long wanted accommodations large enough for an executive office with a permanent secretary. The room now provided for them was adequate in size, conveniently located, well-lighted and pleasant.

Only a nominal rental charge was made for the new offices, but Horticultural Hall now housed six organizations of a horticultural nature in addition to the Horticultural Society itself, with all its

different departments, thus making it the largest and most complete Garden Center in the United States. The opening of the new rooms was made the occasion for an "open house," which was attended by about 1,500 people. The additional space was provided at a cost of $4,000. In 1939 the Trustees voted to permit the resumption of rummage sales in the Hall, after excluding them a second time.

The demand for additional services already noted extended to the Library, which had almost a thousand borrowers, some of them living in distant states. At the end of 1939 the book collection comprised 26,377 bound volumes, of which number 522 were added during the year.

Although 1,300 packages were being mailed each year, very few books were lost. Also, only a few were removed surreptitiously from the shelves. The total loss had been an average of twelve books a year. No thefts of books of great value had been discovered.

Prizes offered by *Horticulture* for garden club Year Books brought in several hundred such books, some of them having unusual merit. This offer of prizes, made yearly, has been helpful to the Library and to a host of garden clubs. After the prizes have been announced, all the Year Books received are placed as an exhibit in the Library, attracting much attention. Three traveling collections were made up in 1939 and the Year Books went to many parts of the country, with calls even from California and Alabama. It soon became necessary to make reservations far ahead. Club officers, program chairman and members studied them eagerly.

The Society found itself faced in 1939 with problems having to do with the construction of a new subway under Huntington Avenue, with a station and underpass at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue. This work was to be underway for a long time and to create much annoyance from noise and dust. Competent engineers were engaged to make sure the building would not be damaged by the construction work. The subway was eventually to prove beneficial to the Society. Both the North and South Stations could then be reached more readily and, conversely, easier access provided to Horticultural Hall.

Early in the year the death of General Francis H. Appleton was announced. General Appleton was President of the Society from 1896 to 1900 and a Trustee for many years more. He was very active in the effort to obtain a new building for the Society, then occupying the Hall on Tremont Street.

In 1900, with the new structure under way, O. B. Hadwen, President of the Worcester County Horticultural Society, was also elected President of this Society, but General Appleton was requested to remain as Chairman of the Building Committee until the new Hall had been completed. His portrait hangs in the President's Gallery.

The increase in membership fees raised the income from that source to $17,633.50 as against $15,963 the previous year, although the total membership was smaller. The increase from investments increased more than one thousand dollars and *Horticulture* contributed $1,090.99 from earnings. Yet the year ended with a deficit of $2,961.62, partly because of necessary repairs and other increased building expenses.

1940—A SUCCESSFUL SPRING SHOW BRINGS CLEARER SKIES

THE financial skies grew clearer in 1940 in spite of deteriorating business conditions. The Spring Show drew an increasing number of visitors, with a consequent profit of $24,085.30. The income from investments showed a marked increase, due largely to the sagacity of the treasurer, John S. Ames, and the amount received from membership fees continued to increase, not withstanding that the membership itself was still tending downward. The explanation of the last item was to be found, of course, in the increase of one dollar in annual dues. If we may be permitted to look ahead to the end of the year, we will find the Treasurer's books revealing an excess of $6,339.50 in income over expenditure, in spite of a $792 loss by *Horticulture* and a falling off in the receipts from Mount Auburn Cemetery to only $935. The check from the last named source was to be the smallest in half a century. This could not be explained by a lower death rate, however, for the income from the sale of lots was to be much greater the next year. At this time the cemetery fund had grown to $55,053.52, all the result of the agreement made when the Society and Mount Auburn Cemetery dissolved partnership.

The Spring Show had such an important part in the Society's activities that it should be considered at once, only mentioning that it was preceded by a small but interesting Camellia Show in January. Much of the Spring Show's success was due to the co-operation of the Massachusetts Nurserymen's Association, which sponsored many of the exhibits in Grand Hall. Ray M. Koon pointed out this fact in his report as Chairman of the Exhibition Committee. He also paid tribute to Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby and Will C. Curtis, who combined their resources in staging a remarkable Nature Trail, and to the Waltham Field Station for a

soilless culture exhibit which, as an educational feature, aroused much favorable comment. The garden clubs were very active, setting up a beautiful rose garden and many flower arrangements.

The Nature Trail received the Bulkley Medal of the Garden Club of America, while an elaborate rock garden won the Gold Medal of American Rock Garden Society for Ormond Hamilton. The President's Cup went to William T. Walke & Sons for a group of amaryllis, with plants which have seldom been surpassed. The Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York was given to the garden clubs for their rose garden, with Mrs. William Stuart Forbes receiving credit as its designer.

Mrs. Galen Stone had again sent in the wonderful acacias grown in her greenhouse at Marion. As the Roland acacias had been sold by that time, Mrs. Stone had the most important collection in New England. They received the Gold Medal of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. A popularity contest at this Show, decided by the votes of visitors, indicated that the public found particular pleasure in a bog garden arranged by Harlan P. Kelsey, Inc. The attendance at the Show was 94,487.

It appeared at the end of the year, when the award was announced, that the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase had again been bestowed upon an exhibit at one of the smaller Shows, rather than at the Spring Exhibition. The winner in this year of 1940, the Cherry Hill Nurseries, received this much coveted award for a comprehensive exhibit of peonies, azaleas and rhododendrons at the June Show. It is doubtful if the Society has ever had a more consistent exhibitor or a warmer supporter than this firm, without which the June Shows would have had little appeal over a long term of years. It was a matter of regret to find the name of the affable David C. Stranger, long an active member of this concern, in the necrology list for 1939.

The name Harvest Show had been adopted for the exhibition formerly known as the Fruit and Vegetable Show, as more fitting, considering the nature of the displays. A cornucopia exhibit of the Massachusetts State College was a feature in 1940.

The Autumn Show was not as original in design as some of those which had preceded it, but brought a very heavy outpouring of chrysanthemums, including cascades. It is worth mentioning,

perhaps, that the yellow form of this very attractive type had its origin in the greenhouses of Edwin S. Webster, where Peter Arnott was in charge. It carried the name of Jane Hart and that variety is still the one most often grown. The trailing habit of this chrysanthemum made it highly popular with exhibitors and it was soon used extensively in New York as well as in Boston. The Autumn Show had a loss of slightly over one thousand dollars, but the fact had become rather generally accepted that this Show must be a contribution to the public pleasure just as much as the Summer Shows.

It is a matter of note that the Year Book for 1940 was the last one in which the name of Marian Roby Case appears as Chairman of the Committee on the Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens, from which it had not been missing since 1925. Miss Case, who was intensely interested in work with children, had made a record as Chairman of this important committee almost without parallel in the history of the Society. Not only had she given many hours each year to the planning of the exhibitions, but she had repeatedly offered generous prizes at the Shows besides donating a large number of bronze medals as awards for children's gardens. She often expressed surprise, as had many other persons, that so few parents came to see the exhibits made by their children, and, for that matter, that few of the Trustees took the time to attend.

The 4-H Clubs began exhibiting at the Children's Show while Miss Case was serving as committee Chairman, taking over the Lecture Hall and adding greatly to the extent of the Shows. A judging contest was also inaugurated, bringing as many as fifty contestants from many parts of the state.

Miss Case had mentioned in her report for 1938 that children had made their first exhibit at Horticultural Hall just fifty years previous in the form of a window garden. It was a long cry from that humble beginning to an exhibition that filled three halls. The most rapid growth had come in recent years and Miss Case was to be credited with much of the momentum which it had acquired. Samuel J. Goddard succeeded her as committee Chairman.

The Committee on Gardens made only one Medal award in 1940. That was the award of the H. H. Hunnewell Medal to

Mr. and Mrs. Clement S. Houghton for a charming estate in Chestnut Hill which had become widely known for its rock gardens, its rhododendrons and its wild flower plantings. The Committee then introduced an innovation by recommending that scrolls be awarded communities, schools, institutions or commercial establishments which had used planting material so as to enhance the beauty of their surroundings, and to encourage similar activities. It was the suggestion of Harold S. Ross that this deviation from the usual custom be tried and the Trustees agreed. So we find a Scroll being given the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in recognition of public service, through the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth, in the design and planting on the Worcester Turnpike in the Town of Northborough;

For the sagacious relation of intersecting highways and their junctures with a steep hillside;

For straightforward simplicity of mass form well suited to modern conditions and for observation from rapidly moving vehicles;

For freedom from intricacy and pretentiousness in the selection and planting of indigenous groundcovers on the hillside;

By which means public highways are made both useful and sightly.

We find the presentation of a Scroll to the City of Boston taking the form of a simple ceremony at City Hall, with the President of the Society, Mr. Webster, making a brief speech as he hands the Scroll to the then mayor, Maurice J. Tobin. Later the Scroll was to be found on the wall in the office of the then superintendent of parks, William T. Long. This Scroll carried the following inscription:

For the wisdom shown by the City's duly constituted authorities more than a century ago in approving and encouraging the undertaking to set apart land as a Public Garden;

By later acquiring the Public Garden for the City, to make it the keystone connecting the Common and the old city with Commonwealth Avenue and the new city;

By maintaining its design and planting in conformity with its original purpose;

By the wise judgment with which alterations have been made without injury but rather to enhance the Garden's charm;

By continued capable maintenance, which has ever increased the beauty of the trees, shrubs and flowers to the end of extending their use to the pleasure of the citizens;

By all of which means the amenities and good name of the City of Boston have been nourished.

A Scroll awarded to the Town of Winchester was presented by William T. Ellery, then Chairman of the Committee on Gardens, at a largely attended public meeting. This Scroll carried the following wording:

In recognition of the excellent judgment and rare good taste made manifest by the town's officials in the planning and planting of its public parks and in the beautification of its highways.

In recognition also of the intelligent use of trees, shrubs and other suitable material on the part of the town's home owners in such a way as to harmonize with the efforts of those in authority to make Winchester what it has in fact become, outstanding among the Commonwealth's many beautiful communities.

A fourth Scroll went to the City of Everett in recognition of the skillful planning and planting of the Albert N. Parlin Junior High School.

Sir Arthur William Hill, Director of Kew Gardens, was awarded the George Robert White Medal in 1940. Sir Arthur had occupied his position as Director since 1922 and had done much to influence horticulture in Great Britain.

The award of the Thomas Roland Medal to George H. Pring of the Missouri Botanical Garden was in recognition of his important work in the study and hybridization of aquatic plants as well as his general horticultural knowledge.

Being a very modest man, G. G. Nearing of Ridgewood, N. J. had done much important work with woody plants, particularly rhododendrons, before the full extent of his accomplishments was realized. He was awarded the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal, an award which Mr. Dawson would surely have approved.

William A. Dayton of the United States Department of Agriculture, the recipient of the Society's Gold Medal in 1940, had devoted himself particularly to forestry but had been active in

other fields and was Vice President of the Washington Academy of Sciences. He represented the Department of Agriculture on the editorial committee of "Standardized Plant Names."

Other Gold Medals were awarded in 1940 as follows:

To F. A. Bartlett of Stamford, Conn., widely known for his scientific work in the study of tree diseases. He founded the Bartlett Tree Expert Company, the Bartlett School of Tree Surgery and the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratory and was one of the founders of the National Shade Tree Conference.

To Alpheus T. De La Mare as one of the outstanding figures in the field of trade publications, a man who had done much for the advancement of horticulture through his paper, the *Florist's Exchange,* and by means of the books he published.

To Arthur Herrington, who had distinguished himself as the manager of the New York Flower Show over a long period.

The annual meeting in 1940 was presided over by William Ellery, Vice President, in the absence of Mr. Webster. The President sent a letter, however, in which he discussed the possibility of connecting Horticultural Hall and Symphony Hall by an underground passageway, utilizing the subway entrance. Later this plan received very favorable consideration, especially from the Committee on Exhibitions, but the Trustees of the transit system promptly vetoed it. The idea of connecting the Hall with the subway was then abandoned.

Mr. Methven, continuing Chairman of the Prize Committee, reported another progressive step, the practice of sending the reports of the meetings of both the Prize and Exhibition committees to all the members of each committee. This was in line with an effort to provide complete accord between these two important committees.

Mrs. John Gardner Coolidge became a Trustee at this meeting, and was promptly made a member of the Committee on Lectures and Publications. This was the committee responsible for the Year Book, from which it was voted to omit the list of new members in 1940 in the interest of economy. The Year Book contained, however, a detailed account of the operations of each department in Horticultural Hall, as they were carried on at that time. Much surprise was expressed, it appears, at the extent

of these operations, especially by members who never had visited Horticultural Hall, including some hundreds who lived in distant states.

The Society was active in 1940 in efforts to combat the spread of the Japanese beetle, which had begun to invade New England, and to aid in the control of the elm leaf beetle. It issued a bulletin about the Japanese beetle and its locations at that time.

1941—THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM

IN HIS address at the annual meeting in 1941 President Webster spoke of the serenity and reasonable prosperity which prevailed at that time. He was a business man, however, and could see trouble ahead. There would be greatly increased taxes, he forecast, with a consequent decrease in spending which might seriously affect the Society. It was his belief, nevertheless, that there should be no abatement in the Society's activities, but, on the contrary, increased efforts by each department to be of greater service. To emphasize his meaning he said that such activities were being kept alive across the water, even under stress of war and with bombs dealing daily destruction. Then he read the following cablegram:

> The Council and Fellows of the Royal Horticultural Society, gathered in London for their annual meeting and their first Flower Show of the season, send affectionate thanks to their fellow gardeners in America for all the sympathy, encouragement and assistance that they have freely expressed and offered.
>
> (Signed) Aberconway.

The contented feeling which seemed to exist, despite the rumblings of a distant conflict, found expression at the Spring Flower Show, to which people flocked in great numbers and which earned a net profit of $37,238.42. This was highly gratifying, inasmuch as the annual budget at that date called for a profit of only $20,000. The actual attendance, somewhat less than the newspapers announced, was 108,000, but this was the largest gate since the Centennial Exhibition in 1929. The winding walks, an innovation in 1940, added much to the effect, and the Show Manager, Mr. Nehrling, received many compliments for the expert way in which the great crowds were handled.

The stage at this Show was occupied by Mrs. Galen Stone's magnificent acacias, the value of which as show material has

Arno H. Nehrling, Who Became Executive Secretary in 1947

The Dutch Village on the Stage of Grand Hall at the 1948 Spring Flower Show, Staged by the Society.

already been noted. It was no surprise that this exhibit won the Society's Gold Medal and the Medal of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and that at the end of the year it received the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase as the most outstanding exhibit at any of the season's exhibitions.

A formal rose garden set up for Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield by their capable superintendent Thomas Murray was awarded the President's Cup. Harlan P. Kelsey, Inc. won the Society's Gold Medal and the medal of the Horticultural Society of New York, in addition to the trophy of the Department of Agriculture, for a well-staged naturalistic garden.

Wilfrid Wheeler, who had become much interested in the growing of hollies on Cape Cod, had an outstanding exhibit illustrating the conservation of holly trees which won him the Bronze Medal of the New England Wild Flower Preservation Society.

It developed after this Show that the charitable person who for several years had been buying a handful of tickets for underprivileged persons, in order that they might see the great exhibitions and thereby gain new hope and courage, was Mrs. Geoffrey Whitney, whose benefactions were made through the Benevolent Fraternity Fruit and Flower Mission.

Another sidelight on the Show was a procession of little express wagons in which sod was being removed from the Breck exhibit at the end of the week for use in the backyard gardens sponsored by the Boston Tuberculosis Association.

The Chrysanthemum Show in November assumed unusual importance as it was combined with the fortieth show of the Chrysanthemum Society of America and brought many visitors from distant states. Because of these factors the cost of the Show was reduced to $999.63. The committee rooms in the Hall were opened to the Chrysanthemum Society for various meetings.

In the course of 1941 the final group of books bequeathed the Society by Albert C. Burrage, were passed on to the Library by Mrs. Burrage. Among the 2,300 volumes were some rare and important items. Besides the books there was an excellent collection of water color drawings of orchids.

The book collection had been increased by 536 volumes apart from those in the Burrage collection. This gave a total of 26,913

volumes on the shelves. Among the additions was Elwes' and Henry's "Trees of Great Britain and Ireland," on which the Society bid successfully at a Red Cross benefit sale in London by the Royal Horticultural Society.

The Library Committee was delighted in the course of the year to receive a large deerskin from Mr. Webster for use in the binding of important books. Similar gifts had been made twice before, and were to be continued for many years.

Special efforts were made through the year 1941 to put Horticultural Hall in the best possible physical condition in anticipation of probable shortages. Two important improvements were made, as well. One, long needed, was the installation of a combined freight and passenger elevator to replace the old-fashioned hand hoist which had been in operation for forty years. Work on this elevator was hurried as fast as conditions permitted because of the growing belief that circumstances might require holding the Spring Shows in Horticultural Hall.

The second improvement was a change in the electric service, alternating current being substituted for the direct current system which had long been the only system available but had several disadvantages. The new system had come into the neighborhood only after months of pressure exerted by this Society and those in charge of Symphony Hall. Direct current still came into the building, however, for use in operating the No. 1 elevator, inasmuch as any change in the powering of this elevator would have meant installing a new motor at heavy cost.

The opening of classes in flower arrangement for women living in city apartments aroused much interest and brought favorable comments from many parts of the country. Mrs. Arthur P. Teele conducted these classes, which were largely attended. It was pleasing to observe the eager interest of women learning how to decorate their homes with flowers.

By the end of the year the Herb Society of America, with headquarters in Horticultural Hall, had undertaken the task of disseminating exact information about the growing of herbs commercially, so that people might be deterred from embarking on a venture sure to fail.

The Society suffered a severe loss in April of 1941 in the death

of Mrs. Bayard Thayer, who had been a life member since 1900 and was the first woman to be elected to the Board of Trustees. She was a member of the Garden Committee for seven years, much of the time as Chairman, a member of the Executive Committee for eight years and a member of the Library Committee for nine years. In 1925 she offered $250 in prizes for the cultivation of wild flowers and in 1929 gave the Society an automatic slide lantern. Many exhibits had come from Mrs. Thayer's beautiful estate in Lancaster through the years and the broad-spreading yew, *Taxis cuspidata Thyerae* was originated there through the work of her superintendent William Anderson. Mrs. Thayer had resigned from the Board in 1940 because of advanced age and had been made an Honorary Trustee.

A popular professor emeritus at what was then the Massachusetts State College, Frank A. Waugh, was awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1941. Professor Waugh taught landscape gardening at the Massachusetts State College for forty years, having been called there from the University of Vermont. His work in systematic pomology opened an entirely new field in this branch of science.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal went to a man who had distinguished himself in many lines of horticultural endeavor, Frederick Huber Howard. Although he had worked with many flowers, this Californian was best known for his rose creations, especially the Los Angeles rose, which had helped to spread the fame of his native city.

C. J. Van Bourgondien, recipient of the Thomas Roland Medal, was a Hollander, as his name indicated, born at Hillegom in the heart of the bulb growing district. He traveled widely selling bulbs and finally settled in this country with a business of his own.

Three Gold Medals were awarded on recommendation of the Committee on Special Medals, with Harold S. Ross as Chairman. One went to John S. Ames, who had been active in several fields of horticulture for many years. He was one of the trusted advisers of Dr. Charles S. Sargent, head of the Arnold Arboretum, and it was largely through his generosity that the now famous Harvard Forest in Petersham was made possible.

A second Gold Medal was awarded Henry Hicks, whose name was familiar to all persons with a love of trees. Mr. Hicks, a nurseryman on Long Island, had a special fondness for evergreens and his name will be perpetuated by the popular *Taxus media Hicksi.*

Blueberries had brought fame to Miss Elizabeth White of Whitesbog, N. J. when the Society's Gold Medal was awarded to her. She lived in a section where blueberries and cranberries had been harvested long before Columbus discovered America. In 1911 Miss White and her father began co-operating with Dr. Frederick V. Colville of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to improve blueberries through cultivation, and she continued to give her attention to this subject for many years, becoming largely responsible for what is now an important industry. More recently she assisted in the improvement of the American holly.

The H. H. Hunnewell Medal for an estate of three acres or more was not awarded in 1941. Also, the Committee on Gardens made a point of economy because of the President's warnings; it recommended only one Gold Medal award, the recipient being Mrs. C. D. Armstrong for a large formal garden on her estate at Osterville. This was a very attractive place, with beautiful planting and several handsome specimens of box. The Society's Silver Medal was given Charles O. Dexter for the excellent manner in which his place in Sandwich had been laid out and planted.

A Silver Medal was awarded also to Mrs. Charles G. Weld for a charming Spring garden, at her home in Brookline.

The well kept lawn, trees and shrubs and the border plantings in the park facing the church structure of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, adjacent to Horticultural Hall, won a Scroll for the church organization.

Delphiniums of unusual size and excellence grown at the home of L. G. Bruggermann in Hingham obtained a Certificate of Culture for that gentleman. Mr. Bruggermann had also been commended for his success in growing chrysanthemums under shade.

Professor Oakes Ames resigned as a member of the Board in 1941 and was promptly made an Honorary Trustee. Charles K.

Cummings was elected a Vice-President and Aubrey B. Butler of Northampton was made a Trustee.

Horticulture had to face a loss of $645.84, due to increased costs, even though the advertising revenue had increased. Building expenses had gone up by seven thousand dollars and investments were down. Yet the treasurer's report was to show an over-all profit of $7,011.78, because of the financial success of the Spring Show.

All in all, the Trustees were fairly well satisfied with the situation as they entered the closing month. Then, on December 7, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the year which Mr. Webster had mentioned as one of serenity when it began was to end with the United States precipitated into World War Two. This brought repercussions which the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, like similar organizations, could not escape. What some of them were would soon become apparent.

1942—THE SOCIETY TURNS TO WAR WORK

WHEN the full import of the Pearl Harbor tragedy became realized a complete reshaping of the activities at Horticultural Hall was started. In the Library, the magazine department and the information bureau the emphasis was transferred from ornamental plants to food crops. Not, of course, that the encouragement of flower growing and the making of ornamental gardens was abandoned. The lesson to be learned from the Royal Horticultural Society, which continued to hold Flower Shows even while a hail of lead was falling on the city of London, was too clear for that.

The federal government was asking for immediate help, however, in persuading people all over the country to do their part in avoiding what might be a serious food shortage. An emergency board set up in Washington made a specific request to this Society for assistance and the Secretary began making trips to the capital city for consultation and information.

Several state-wide conferences were held at Horticultural Hall and soon a State Committee began holding regular meetings in the Trustee's room. A radio program inaugurated the previous year took on new importance and several newspaper releases were sent out, although official sources took over such work before many months had passed.

As the season progressed and the need of continuing effort seemed apparent, an efficient city-wide gardening program was established under the direction of Maurice Tobin, then Mayor of the city. Arno H. Nehrling, the Society's Director of Exhibitions, was made Secretary of a committee, of which Ernest Hoftyzer, later a Trustee of the Society, was one of the most energetic members. As a result of this Committee's help and encouragement hundreds of gardens were made in backyards and on vacant lots. A large section in the Fenway was set aside for

the use of men and women who had no land and the practical value of this action was to be seen long after the war, for this piece of land was to be continued in cultivation, with the gardeners organized into an enthusiastic group.

With the outbreak of the war it became necessary to provide for blackouts, which was done by installing blackout curtains in the Lecture Hall and the small Exhibition Hall. Actually these curtains served a double purpose, making the halls more satisfactory for the showing of stereopticon and and motion pictures in daylight hours. A large flag was hung in the large Exhibition Hall and a smaller flag in the lobby to help promote a patriotic spirit.

Efforts had been made for several years to devise a way to make the entrance more prominent. Mr. Webster had suggested a canopy similar to the one at Symphony Hall, as has been noted, but the Trustees had taken no action to implement this suggestion. Now, however, a less expensive plan was agreed upon and soon the words "Horticultural Hall" had been cut into the stones over the center door. In addition metal frames were installed at each side of this door with inserts giving the name of the building, the date on which it was erected and such other information as might be helpful at the moment. And, of course, an invitation to visit the Library and the offices. This solution of a long-time problem served a very useful purpose by answering some of the questions on the lips of visitors to the city who might be curious as to the name and purpose of so handsome a building.

Plans for the Spring Show had been made before the outbreak of war, with commitments to those in charge of Mechanics Building. It would have been very difficult to make changes when the Show date was only about three months ahead. Nevertheless, it was not without trepidation that the Show was opened on March 16, although there was in the end little cause for worry. It is true that the attendance and the financial receipts were to be off about twenty per cent, but so they were at the other large shows, and after all there was a profit of $17,376.88, an amount to be welcomed in a year bringing many extraordinary expenses.

As a Show the 1942 exhibition ranked very high. Indeed, President Webster said of it, "This year's Show was one of the

most outstanding exhibitions ever staged by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and one that reflects credit on all those who had a part in putting it on." For one thing, the Show was unusually large, the basement having been taken over for a magnificent spectacle set up by Harlan P. Kelsey, Inc., of East Boxford, featuring the famous mountains of North Carolina, where native plants are to be found in greater variety than anywhere else in the United States. This exhibit received both the Society's Gold Medal and the trophy of the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture.

A garden set up by Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Van Beuren of Newport, R. I. aroused a great amount of interest at this Show because it brought together a greater number of lilies than had ever before been assembled at any exhibition in America. It received the Society's Gold Medal and the Bulkley Medal of the Garden Club of America and then, at the end of the year, was awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase as the most outstanding exhibit at any of the Shows held in 1942.

The President's Cup was won by William T. Walke & Sons, Inc. for a southern garden. The Walkes, who grew amaryllis plants superlatively well, also won the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York. The Gold Medal of the Pennsylvania Society went to Edwin S. Webster for a superb group of orchids.

At the annual meeting in May Mr. Webster devoted much of his address to a discussion of the Society's war-time activities. He pointed out that all the departments were expected to co-operate in every way possible with the federal, state and local authorities in their efforts in behalf of food production, canning and other nutritional projects.

Mr. Webster was highly pleased with the results of the Spring Show, as has been noted, but nevertheless he recommended that the 1943 Exhibition be held in Horticultural Hall, a recommendation which was to be adopted as a matter of course. He felt that the other Shows should be held as usual, believing that the public would welcome them even in time of war, as proved to be a fact.

While dealing with the Shows notice must be taken of the re-

port presented at the annual meeting by the Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions, Ray M. Koon. Toward the end of his report Mr. Koon said:

"To ask a team of judges to render a verdict in a few minutes on an Exhibit that has taken months to create is a large order. That creditable results, as a rule, are achieved by the Prize Committee and their judges in awarding prizes under such unfamiliar circumstances is a wonder! The system is obviously fraught with hazard and should be modified to prevent the possibility of serious errors occurring in the future."

Then Mr. Koon made this statement:

"Some device must be set up whereby an Executive Committee, possibly designated by the President, will meet at stated times during all Shows to hear and act on protests. This is very important and we should not go into another year unprepared in this respect."

This was the first time that differences between the Exhibition and Prize Committees had been voiced publicly, although the Prize Committee had sometimes expressed a wish to be consulted when the schedules were being made up. However, it may have been wise to clear the air, for the report of the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee in 1943 was to disclose adjustments which did much to improve the situation described by Mr. Koon, as will be noted.

Because of the developing interest in lilies a Lily Show was added to the list of exhibitions in 1942 and was so well received that a similar Show was planned for the next year. Records of attendance were broken at both the Harvest and the Children's Shows. The victory garden movement had resulted in more home gardens being cultivated than at any time since the first world war. Daniel W. O'Brien of the Children's Garden Committee called the 1942 Show the best ever held in this country, ranking well with many of the best adult exhibitions. The extent of this Show is revealed by the fact that the 1,298 individual entries marked an increase of 507 over those of the preceding year.

A bulletin dealing with poison ivy, which had become such a serious pest as to interfere with the making of new gardens, was circulated throughout the country. A new bulletin on ragweed

eradication was also well received. Both were writeen by George Graves of the editorial staff. Dr. Kendall's bulletin on grape cultivation was revised and reprinted.

All libraries reported a drop in circulation and the one at Horticultural Hall was no exception. Yet there was an increase in the number of books mailed out, in spite of higher book rates put into effect by the postoffice department. Soon after the war started, libraries in all the coastal states began putting their treasures in safe storage and the Library Committee of this Society investigated several possible hideouts. It finally was decided, however, that no safer place could be found than Horticultural Hall itself. The room over the kitchen which had been fitted up as a Library annex was considered well protected and the Society's most valuable books were stored there.

Two members of the Library staff resigned to work for the federal government and their places were not filled. This made it necessary to cease work on the recataloguing project. The Library shelves were found to have a considerable number of duplicates, especially in the orchid collection. With the permission of the Trustees enough books were sold through the bulletin of the American Orchid Society to bring in $2,352.49.

The sale of books sponsored by the Society had continued good and one of them, "The Gardener's Almanac," had become the Society's exclusive property. It was to go through many editions and was distributed for a time through the Oxford University Press. The large edition of "The Gardener's Omnibus" originally printed had been exhausted and the book was not reprinted because of the war-time restrictions on paper and the large expense that would be involved.

The Society's magazine had some difficult problems to meet, due to the falling off of membership in the three societies—the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the Horticultural Society of New York. There was a shrinkage in advertising revenue, too, as many advertisers had not been able to continue in business.

Jens Jensen of Ellison Bay, Wisconsin, was awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1942. The dean of American landscape architects, he had done much notable work throughout

the country, but his name was linked most closely with the great West Park System of Chicago.

Vincent R. dePetris of Grosse Farms, Michigan, long a prominent florist, had been winning new laurels by his work in developing improved hardy chrysanthemums. He was awarded the Thomas Roland Medal.

Henry T. Skinner, curator of the Morris Arboretum at Chestnut Hill, Pa. was perhaps the youngest man to win the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal, but his excellent work as a propagator at Wisley in England, at the Arnold Arboretum and at Cornell University before being called to Pennsylvania was considered to make him fully entitled to this honor.

Original research in vegetable growing, the preparation of much valuable data on the cultivation of vegetables and the plan for successive crops worked out in his garden in Ipswich won the Society's Gold Medal for Albert C. Burrage, Jr., who was to write a bulletin later to be circulated by the Society, and finally a book.

The Society's Gold Medal was awarded Edward I. Farrington, Secretary and the Editor of *Horticulture,* for "long and distinguished service."

Mrs. William A. Parker received the top award of the Garden Committee, the H. H. Hunnewell Medal, for her estate in North Easton, described "as having old world appearance and charm while up to the minute in details of planting and comfort." A Gold Medal went to Mrs. Charles E. Riley of Cotuit, "for the perfect maintenance of horticultural objects." If this citation seemed ambiguous it was explained in a statement that this was an old place in which planting done many years before had been preserved in remarkably good condition, with a valley garden and a pool having real Victorian charm.

The Berkshire Garden Center in Stockbridge won a Gold Medal for "an excellent educational exhibit, its co-operation with the gardening public, for its example in stimulating the trial and use of new materials and the understanding utilization of a difficult natural terrain."

A Blue Ribbon Certificate was awarded the City of Quincy for its excellent maintenance of a traffic circle in the heart of an in-

dustrial center at the Quincy end of the Fore River bridge. This work was done under the direction of Andrew W. Stewart.

It was voted by the Board of Trustees in 1942 to establish a list of "Honorary Members," this list to appear in the Year Book. Each person awarded the Society's Gold Medal by the Trustees on the recommendation of the Committee on Special Medals, or by a vote originating in the Board itself was to have a place in this list, beginning with 1942.

Dunbar Lockwood was elected a Trustee in 1942, succeeding Miss Marian Roby Case, who had declined reelection. Miss Case, who had become a member of the Society in 1920, was made a Trustee in 1925, having been the second woman elected to the Board. Miss Case had been a very active and very useful member of the Board throughout her term of office. She had been responsible in large measure for the decision of the Society to purchase the magazine *Horticulture,* as noted in Mr. Benson's History. She had done more than any other person to develop and expand the Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens, donating a large number of medals each year. She had set up excellent exhibits at some of the Autumn Shows and had responded freely when called upon for assistance by the Fruit and Flower Mission. She was at once made an Honorary Trustee.

Boston's Autumn Flower Show in 1942, at which no admission fee was charged, was in the nature of a tribute to China. The leading exhibit was made up of spider chrysanthemums in great variety grouped around a magnificent Chinese goddess loaned by the Museum of Fine Arts. The chrysanthemums were grown and arranged by Mrs. Edward Forbes and the exhibit was designed by Mrs. Irving Wright. Several Chinese women appeared in costume at this show and two of them were photographed in the President's Gallery standing beside a large Chinese jar, the picture being reproduced in the Year Book.

As 1942 came to a close the Trustees felt that the first year of war-time stress had been met valiantly and well, even though the expenditures had exceeded the income by $4,796.17. Much had been accomplished and yet there had been sufficient economies to reduce the building's expenses by more than $4,000 and

the office expenses by more than $5,000. The income from investments had increased a little and fortunately a substantial amount ($2,330) had been received from Mt. Auburn Cemetery. On the other hand, membership fees had yielded less than in the previous year and *Horticulture* had had a heavy loss, $3,237.16.

A bonus amounting to $390 had been paid the employes in the place of the increase in salaries and wages for which they had hoped, and blackout expenses of $684.08 had been incurred. The bonus and blackout items, as well as the catalogue expense of $750, were charged to the earned surplus account.

1943—AMERICA'S ONLY IMPORTANT SPRING SHOW

THIS Society had the unique distinction in 1943 of producing the only important Spring Flower Show anywhere in the United States. It was a Show which absorbed much of the attention of all departments in the early months of the year, for it was to be held in Horticultural Hall instead of Mechanics Building, which had been taken over by war-time activities. It was to be put on, too, with some measure of apprehension as to how it would be received in time of war. When it had come to a close, however, the letters of commendation and congratulation received from many sources, locally and at a distance, indicated almost unanimous approval.

It was inevitable that many difficult problems should be presented, for the Exhibition had to be planned for conditions entirely different from those found in Mechanics Building. For one thing, it had to be reduced in size at least fifty per cent and yet it had to be attractive and spectacular enough to maintain the Society's prestige in this field. It was expected that the attendance would be about half the average of former years, but if 50,000 people were to pass through the building in six days there must be wide aisles and no bottlenecks. The manner in which Mr. Nehrling, working with the Exhibition Committee, met and solved these problems elicited the warmest praise. In brief it was an excellent Show and the actual attendance was 57,000, a greater number of people than had ever before been inside Horticultural Hall in a single week. The greatly enlarged area on the mezzanine floor gave excellent space for the garden clubs, being made possible because the partitions separating the offices were portable. All of them were removed, and of course the organizations occupying the offices were forced to suspend

their activities for the time being. This they did in the most cooperative spirit.

There were exhibits even in the Library and at the rear of the building on the office floor. They were made possible by the newly-installed elevator, which was in constant use. The city had insisted that emergency lights be placed on all floors before the Show could be opened and that an exit from the Library by way of the adjoining roof be provided.

Those who were privileged to see this Show will remember some of the outstanding exhibits, especially the exhibit of orchids which won the President's Cup for L. Sherman Adams and which many experts declared to be the best display of orchids ever made in America. The New York Medal Certificate was awarded Alexander I. Heimlich for a rock garden and waterfall and the Pennsylvania Gold Medal Certificate to Albert A. Hulley for a rose garden. Will C. Curtis received the Bulkley Medal in bronze awarded by the Garden Club of America for an educational collection of rare and unusual plants gathered from all parts of the country. The award for the best commercial exhibit went to Ernest Borowski for an azalea garden.

A Georgian dining room was staged by the Garden Club Federation under the direction of Mrs. Harold Plimpton, and plant windows planned by Mrs. Irving C. Wright attracted much attention. Victory garden information was given to thousands of persons at a booth in the Library conducted by the State College. In the course of the week requests for literature numbered 10,570.

Following a vote of the Trustees, no Medals from the Society were awarded, Medal Certificates taking their place. Certificates were awarded also by the New York and Pennsylvania societies as noted. The new Totty Memorial Medal went to Mr. Hulley for his rose garden.

The Show was happily a success financially as well as artistically, making a profit of $16,436.01. Almost a thousand dollars in small change went into a wishing well at the Show and was turned over to the Red Cross. Although the Show was circumscribed by being held in Horticultural Hall, the location

had certain advantages. It brought the Society to the attention of thousands of persons who had known nothing about its work, and some of them promptly became members.

When the annual meeting was held a few weeks later the new Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions, Dr. Elmer D. Merrill, reported that the Committee had worked closely with the Prize Committee as instructed by President Webster and that copies of the minutes of each meeting had been sent to that Committee. In addition, the members of the Exhibition Committee had received transcripts of the proceedings of each meeting of the Prize Committee. In this way, reported Dr. Merrill, a mutual understanding of all problems between the two committees had been developed. Thus the situation which had brought forth the critical report of Dr. Merrill's predecessor was apparently cleared up to the satisfaction of all concerned, and in a manner to establish a pattern for future years.

In his report as Chairman of the Committee on Prizes Aubrey Butler said, "At our first business meeting of the year Mr. Webster emphasized the fact that judges should keep in mind that they are judging a flower exhibit rather than a garden or established planting. In connection with this suggestion your Committee recommends that a new scale be devised for judging garden exhibits with dramatic appeal."

The other reports at the annual meeting had to do largely with conditions produced by the war. The President spoke of afternoon and evening classes and the plans being made for Summer canning demonstrations. State Garden Committee meetings were being held regularly in the Hall and the City Garden Committee with Mr. Nehrling as Secretary was very active. Mr. Farrington was acting temporarily as county agent for Suffolk county. Hundreds of bulletins were going out and a miniature demonstration garden constructed by Harold Bent had been set up in the entrance lobby. Robert G. Stone, a long-time Trustee, had gone to Washington to work for the army with the rank of captain, and Edwin F. Steffek, an assistant to the Secretary, had also joined the armed forces. Captain Stone thought it best not to continue as a member of the Board and Dr. George O. Clark was elected to succeed him.

By vote of the Trustees Dr. Merritt L. Fernald and Professor Alfred C. Kinsey were awarded a Gold Medal Certificate for the book "Edible Wild Plants of Eastern North America" as the most notable book of a horticultural nature published in 1943.

The membership situation improved materially. The downward trend was stopped about the middle of the year and from then on more members were added than were lost. There was a total increase in membership fees of about $300, a small amount it is true, but enough to be reassuring. The various organizations having their headquarters in the Hall continued their work in spite of war-time restrictions, but the Mycological Club of Boston, which had been a valued tenant for twenty-five years, decided to move to Cambridge, where its specimens would be more readily available. This very useful club was organized in 1895.

The Society's magazine *Horticulture* continued reasonably successful, although showing a small loss (it was $529.13 for the year) and maintained a circulation of 35,000 with no serious attempt to increase it being made. It was called upon to give up many hundreds of valuable engravings to meet the copper shortage.

The Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase was awarded to L. Sherman Adams for the most outstanding exhibit in 1943, but it could not be delivered because of the prevailing restrictions on the use of gold. James Geehan kept the employment bureau functioning, although it had become extremely difficult to meet the demand for competent gardeners. The younger men were in the service, as a matter of course, but the trend toward smaller estates, which was to become very pronounced later, was already in the initial stage. The Society carried on a radio program on Saturday mornings for some months. Later George Graves of the editorial staff took over a morning program, which had been instituted by Miss Elizabeth Blossom, a Library assistant, and was kept busy answering gardening questions. Miss Blossom had resigned to go to the Library of the Cleveland (Ohio) Garden Center.

It became noticeable that the size of the Society's Year Book was becoming steadily smaller as the price of paper and printing grew greater. The 1943 edition had only sixty-four pages as against 114 pages in the issue of 1933.

Richardson Wright was the recipient of the George Robert

White Medal of Honor in 1943. He had at the time been editor of House and Garden for thirty years and still held that position. He had written many books, had lectured widely. He was a Chairman of the International Flower Show and a Trustee of the New York Botanical Garden. He had already been awarded a Gold Medal by the American Iris Society, as well as the Arthur Hoyt Scott award. He had been president of the American Rose Society and the Men's Garden Club of New York and had long been on the Board of Directors of the Horticultural Society of New York.[1]

The Thomas Roland Medal was awarded Edward Owen Orpet, an Englishman who came to this country, as a young man and made a reputation as an orchid grower on the Bayard Thayer estate in Lancaster, where he became superintendent. He originated many orchid varieties that became popular as cut flowers. He also produced the bi-generic hybrid, *Epicattleya orpentiana.* In the ten years at Lancaster, he received many medals from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and other organizations. From Massachusetts Mr. Orpet went to Illinois, becoming superintendent of the Cyrus H. McCormick estate, and later became a park superintendent. Then he went to California to establish a nursery of rare plants and win additional honors. He was 81 years old when this award was made.

Wilfrid Wheeler, long a prominent figure in New England horticulture, was given the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal. Born and raised in Concord, he traveled in England and France after his college days, studying horticultural developments in those countries. Later he became Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture and was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture when that position was established. When his term expired he moved to Hatchville, a part of Falmouth, and from then on had done much to develop and improve horticulture on the Cape, including the commercial growing of strawberries and melons. He also had become interested in the beach plum from a commercial angle and had been awarded the Jewett prize for beach plum improvement. Finding that American holly thrived on the Cape,

[1] Now retired, Mr. Wright is living on Cape Cod.

he had given much time to the study and propagation of holly plants, selecting the best strains.[2]

In the course of the year Mrs. Fisk Warren presented the Society a valuable collection of orchid prints. With this gift as a nucleus the Library Committee decided to accumulate a somewhat extensive collection of both fruit and flower prints. The foundation was laid with the purchase of 500 items, all by established artists. It was planned to develop in time a well-rounded representation of artists, periods and plants such as no other institution has attempted.[3]

The Library started a children's bookshelf in 1943, at the instigation of Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby, who felt that more attention should be given to the encouragement of gardening by the newer generation. Books for juniors relating to gardening and nature were added as fast as they appeared.

This was the 75th year of continuous service for the Benevolent Fruit and Flower Mission and a critical year, as it had been affected adversely by World War conditions. Nevertheless much good work was accomplished, the members of the Committee sharing their ration points for the purchase of canned goods and jellies.

[2] Mr. Wheeler is still active at his home in Hatchville as this is written.

[3] Later committees seem to have been less interested in the project, without much advance being made.

1944—PRESIDENT WEBSTER HANDS HIS GAVEL TO JOHN S. AMES

THERE was a strange, tense feeling in Horticultural Hall at the beginning of 1944 and continuing until after the Spring Show. War-time activities of many kinds imposed a strain on the staff, but coincidentally there came a demand from the state and the city that a safety program be put into immediate effect. In fact, it had to be completed, the Trustees were told, before the Spring Show would be permitted to open. Here is what was required: Two new exits on the ground floor. An exit from the Library to the adjoining roof. The rehanging of all outside doors so that they would swing outward. The complete removal of one pair of doors leading to the Library. A change of locks on many of the doors. Fireproofing the door leading from the kitchen to the boiler room. Installing double rails on all the stairways and executing various safety measures in the attic, where exhibition material was stored.

Persons familiar with the building will understand that breaking through the thick walls to provide additional exits was no light task. The fire marshal had insisted in addition that the fire escape at the rear of the building be replaced, but finally agreed that this work might be deferred until Summer.

The last screw in this large program was driven into place on the morning of the Show's opening day. Although these safety requirements, an aftermath of the tragic Coconut Grove disaster, called for much additional labor at a time when most of the janitor's assistants were green men, they helped give the Hall a rating as one of the safest public buildings in the city.

Time was found for the January Camellia Show, even in the midst of all this work, with an exhibit which won a Silver Medal Certificate for Mrs. J. D. Cameron Bradley, whose *Camellia Chandleri elegans* was voted the best bloom on the tables.

The success of the 1943 Spring Exhibition in Horticultural Hall made possible the approach to the 1944 Show on a basis of confidence. With a few lessons learned from the previous year, wider aisles and a rerouting of the crowds made the exhibits easier to view and eased congestion at many points. Still, the attendance of 63,274, about seven thousand more than in 1943, taxed the building's capacity to the fullest extent. Indeed, it was necessary to close the doors at times, and often a queue reached around the corner of the building. The increased attendance was reflected in a profit of $24,776.26, pleasing news for the Trustees in a year when expenses were running high.

Many persons from other states, even New Jersey and Pennsylvania, came to see the Show, for again it was the only one of importance anywhere in the country. Amazement was expressed that exhibits of such a spectacular nature could be set up under the conditions then prevailing. The arrangement of the halls in the building were such in themselves however, as to promote good showmanship, with the huge permanent drop curtain at the end of the largest hall lending a valuable scenic effect.

The character of the exhibits may be gathered by the awards. The President's Cup and also the Gold Medal Certificate of the Horticultural Society of New York went to Alexander I. Heimlich for a Pan-American garden, actually a fascinating jungle garden. Will C. Curtis' all-American garden, with a great variety of plants, was awarded the Bulkley Medal of the Garden Club of America, while the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Gold Medal Certificate was won by the Gardner Museum for an exhibit of *Cymbidium pauwelsi* beautifully grown.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Galen Stone and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone a new award, the George Holliday Prize, was established in 1944 in memory of Mr. Holliday, who for many years had been in charge of the gardens and greenhouses at "Great Hill," the Marion estate of Mrs. Galen Stone. This prize, restricted to private gardeners, was for award only to an exhibitor of pot plants showing the highest standard of culture. The first award was made in 1944 to Stewart Johnson, gardener on the Stone Estate for a collection of acacias. The garden clubs had an important part to play in this Show, of course. They were assigned

to the mezzanine floor, where a terrace garden was one of many pleasing exhibits.

The fast moving events of this eventful year soon brought the annual meeting, which in itself was to have unusual importance, as Mr. Webster was to make his last address as President, after having held that office for almost thirteen years, a longer period by almost three years than that of any other President in the Society's long history. As usual the meeting was held at the same time as the Daffodil Show which, as in former years, helped increase the attendance.

In his address Mr. Webster reviewed briefly the advance in membership and influence which had taken place during his term in office and that of his predecessor, Mr. Burrage. He himself had headed the Society through a depression and more than a year of war without seeing any loss in the organization's vitality or activity, and he rejoiced in the union with the New York and Pennsylvania Societies in the same field.

He said he had tried to be fair to both the commercial interests and the amateurs working within the Society, as well as the garden clubs and the special societies meeting in the Hall. He believed that the necessity of maintaining a balance between all the groups represented was of the greatest importance. He felt that he had done a real service in bringing about more active cooperation between the Exhibition Committee and the Prize Committee, and he continued to believe that the rule requiring at least one change in the Board of Trustees each year was a good rule, although it might work hardship at times. He paid a warm tribute to John S. Ames, who seemed certain to become his successor, and who had been well trained by his long service as Treasurer and a member of various committees.

Following his address Mr. Webster presented the George Robert White Medal of Honor to Richardson Wright, to whom it had been awarded late in 1943 as noted. Later in the afternoon Mr. Wright read a learned and comprehensive paper about the Empress Josephine and her gardens. Mr. Webster also made the presentation of the President's Cup to Alexander I. Heimlich.

In the report of the Library Committee the Chairman, Charles

K. Cummings, stated that his Committee had recommended to the Trustees that two additional members be added, making five in all, three of whom must be Trustees. This recommendation having been accepted by the Board was being presented to the Society as an amendment to the By-Laws at this meeting and was to be adopted. Mrs. Susan McKelvey and Dr. Elmer D. Merrill were later to be added to the Committee.

The recataloguing of the Library was perforce suspended when the young woman doing that work went into defense work. Late in 1944, however, it was found possible to engage the services of Miss Ethelyn M. Tucker, formerly the Librarian at the Arnold Arboretum, and this much needed undertaking was resumed. The Library enlarged its services during the year by offering a free talk by a member of the staff to any garden club which might choose to have a meeting at Horticultural Hall. A large collection of kodachrome slides from interesting and rare garden books was prepared, making lectures available on a variety of subjects. Since most clubs like to have tea after their meetings, tea equipment for fifty was provided and a case arranged for it on the mezzanine floor. Perhaps the timing was wrong, but the response to this generous gesture was not what had been expected.

In 1944 the First National Bank of Boston obtained permission to have a painting made to represent the first Exhibition of the Society, in 1829, a reproduction to be used in a series of blotters showing notable "firsts." A large, framed copy of this painting was presented to the Society and given a place in the Library, where at this writing it still hangs.

Three thousand and ten books had been borrowed in 1943, which was a drop of 983 from the previous year, continuing a trend that had persisted for five years. Early in 1944, however, the discouraging trend was halted, with a marked increase in the number of borrowers, and the curve was to continue upward with a return to normal living.

In reporting for the Committee on Prizes Aubrey B. Butler, the Chairman, said:

"The Committee on Prizes views and appraises each and every exhibit during the year which would be eligible for the Burrage

Vase award. Because of this fact your Committee feels that the Committee on Prizes as a whole should have more to say in the awarding of this vase."

Mr. Butler also said that his Committee had done all the judging at the smaller shows rather than ask judges to come from a distance, with transportation and man-power shortages such as they were. His Committee had also emphasized the necessity of scaling all exhibits judged.

Samuel J. Goddard, reporting for the Committee on the Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens, spoke of the greatly expanded school and home garden program brought about through the efforts of the School and Park Departments of the city. They had been reflected in the largest exhibition of the products of children's gardens ever held in the Hall.

Mr. Goddard had words of warm commendation for Daniel O'Brien, in charge of gardening and vocational agriculture in the Boston school system, and Henry G. Wendler, Assistant Director of the Boston Victory Garden Committee who at this time were doing much of the work required in setting up the Children's Shows. He gave credit, too, to Earle Nodine, in charge of the 4-H section of these Shows, which had grown remarkably in size and in the quality of material shown. He spoke also of the assistance given by Mrs. Henry D. Tudor in preparing the schedule.

At the close of the meeting announcement was made that John S. Ames had been elected President, as anticipated by Mr. Webster in his address. In point of succession he had become the thirtieth in a long list of distinguished men holding this office.

It is seldom that as many as four new Trustees are elected in a single year, but that happened in 1944, when Paul Dempsey, Ernest Hoftyzer, Q. A. Shaw McKean and George Lewis, Jr. were added to the Board. Messrs. Dempsey, Hoftyzer and McKean were elected at the annual meeting. Mr. Lewis was appointed by the newly organized Board with Mr. Ames presiding when Walter Hunnewell was elected Treasurer, thus creating a fourth vacancy.

At this meeting of the Board resolutions were adopted in memory of Winthrop L. Carter, a Trustee who had passed away

a few weeks earlier. Mr. Carter was a wise and active member of the Board who only a few weeks before his death had presided at an important conservation meeting held at the Hotel Statler by this Society in cooperation with the Advertising Club of Boston.

With the financial picture none too satisfactory it was decided to break a long-time precedent and embark on a quiet campaign for additional capital through an Endowment Fund. John W. Queen, who directed the advertising for the Spring Flower Shows, was placed in charge and solicitation was continued through the year ahead, although without any fanfare.[1]

The passing of Miss Marian Roby Case on July 4 was a serious loss to the Society. She had been very active in various branches of the Society's work, but especially in the development of the Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens. She had much to do with persuading the Board to purchase *Horticulture* when Mr. Farrington became Secretary and contributed to its pages. A large projector was among her gifts to the Society and she offered special children's garden medals over a long period of years.

Miss Case bequeathed $50,000 to the Society, the largest bequest for many years. She had long conducted a Summer school for boys at her home in Weston, giving instruction in various branches of gardening. It was her dearest wish to have this school continued after her death and she had suggested willing her estate to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society if it would guarantee to carry out her wishes. Both Mr. Burrage and Mr. Webster had discussed this matter with Miss Case, but neither had felt that the Society should be bound to such an agreement on a permanent basis without an endowment sufficient to make the school independent. In the end Miss Case willed the larger part of her estate to Harvard University in the expectation that it would be used for the benefit of the Arnold Arboretum. It is significant that the University has made no attempt to continue the school, as Miss Case desired.

It was also necessary in 1944 to record the death of Mrs.

[1] The campaign was closed in 1946, as will be seen, but contributions received since then have set the Fund total at $40,361.31.

Elizabeth Downs Wadsworth of Winchester, sister of Jeré Downs, a former Trustee who had passed away in 1935. Mrs. Wadsworth left many bequests on the basis of shares but because of certain disputes distribution was long delayed. Finally a compromise was agreed upon by which the Society received $19,668.19. This supplemented a bequest of $15,000 from her brother.

In the Winter of 1944 the Secretary was invited to a conference at the Garden Center in Cleveland, where an expansion plan on broad lines was being considered. After several hours of discussion, the recommendation was made that Arnold Davis of the staff at the Massachusetts State College be offered the position of Director. This was done and Mr. Davis accepted, beginning a career which was to enhance his reputation as a leader and executive and to add greatly to the prestige of the Cleveland Center. The Secretary was also called to Washington and to Philadelphia for conferences. With Mr. Nehrling he helped formulate plans for giving increased importance and influence to the organization known as United Horticulture, plans which were to bear fruit in later years.

It had become not unusual for authors to seek publishers for their books through the editorial staff at Horticultural Hall. Dr. U. P. Hedrick, long head of the New York State Experiment Station, sought such assistance and an excellent publisher was found for his books. The manuscript of his first volume and the proofs were read at the Hall. Mr. Farrington wrote an introduction for the book.

Continued requests for ready-made programs to be provided garden clubs and other organizations were not easy to meet. Finally a bulletin containing a wide variety of garden programs was issued.

In the course of the year the Society was called upon to provide judging schedules for the *New York Times* and a list of gardens as subjects for articles to be published in *House and Garden*. Material, including 100 lantern slides, was sent to Portland, Oregon, for a meeting in memory of Ernest H. Wilson.

Although these details are those of a single year they are not to be taken as peculiar to that year, but as an indication of each year's routine.

Theodore Wirth of Minneapolis, Minn., awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1944, had had a remarkable record of efficiency in the development of public parks and in making them of special value as recreational centers. A Swiss by birth, he first won fame by his work at Elizabeth Park in Hartford, Conn., where in 1903 he established the first municipal rose garden in this country. Mr. Wirth became Superintendent of Parks in Minneapolis in 1906.

Few rosarians were better known at the time than Joseph Herbert Hill, awarded the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal. In Richmond, Ind. he had one of the country's largest rose-growing establishments, and had introduced several roses which had won wide popularity, with Better Times topping the list. Joanna Hill, named for his daughter, was another well-known variety.

Albert A. Hulley received the Thomas Roland Medal in 1944. At the end of the year he was also awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for a rose garden at the Spring Show, the outstanding exhibit at any of the Society's exhibitions, thus making 1944 a banner year for him. Mr. Hulley's skill had long been demonstrated at the Flower Shows.

Arthur Herrington, a well-known horticultural expert of Madison, N. J., had said that the rose plants in the Hulley garden at the 1943 Show were the finest he had ever seen at any Show in America. In addition to roses Mr. Hulley had been very successful in the cultivation of rare clematis varieties, occasionally used in his exhibits.

The method devised by Professor Jacob K. Shaw of the Massachusetts State College by which to identify varieties of fruit trees in the nursery was considered so valuable that the Society's Gold Medal was awarded him in 1944. His system had been applied so widely that the shipping of misnamed fruit trees by reliable nurseries had been largely overcome.

Another State College man, William R. Cole, was selected by the Trustees for a somewhat unusual award, the result of his highly efficient efforts in the promotion of Victory gardens and in the preservation of the products of these gardens during the war-time emergency. Mr. Cole was given a handsome Scroll signed by the President of the Society. As an organizer this

man had few equals, and his energy, resourcefulness and executive ability had made him a recognized leader.

The Treasurer's accounting at the end of the year showed a loss of only $270.34, as against $3,305.78 the previous year. The earnings from the Spring Show were largely responsible for the improved financial showing, although membership fees added an extra thousand dollars and the sale of surplus Library books brought in about $2,800. The Autumn Show had the unusually heavy loss of $2,913.77, however, and *Horticulture* reported a $382.04 deficit. Yet $2,592.93 still remained in the earned surplus account. It was considered to have been a good year for a Society operating under war-time restrictions.

1945—PEACE BRINGS MANY NEW PROBLEMS

JOHN S. AMES had been president of the Society just a year when the annual meeting was held on May 7, 1945. Throughout that year he had been confronted by problems engendered by a world war. In the year ahead he was to encounter a new set of problems, created in part at least, by the coming of peace. The Spring Show yielded $5,000 less than the one in 1944, and the Society's operating expenses were rising. With the better bonds giving way to those having a lower rate of interest, the President, along with the Treasurer and the other members of the Finance Committee, had pressing investment questions to consider. Mr. Ames in his address mentioned the small deficit of $200 which existed at the end of 1944, but predicted that the loss would be greater in the year then under way. He was right, as the Treasurer's books at the end of the year were to show.

Mr. Ames called attention to the loud speaker system which had been installed since the previous annual meeting and which gave everyone in the room an opportunity to hear what was being said. He explained that the system had been developed to such an extent that music could be broadcast throughout the lower floor at the time of the Spring Show. Mr. Ames spoke with warm appreciation of the work done by the organization known as Garden Club Service Inc. headed by Mrs. Sherman Whipple, which was extremely active at the various hospitals for wounded servicemen. Over a thousand dollars was raised for this work by means of a wishing well at the Spring Show.

He expressed thanks to Mrs. William C. Endicott for a portrait of her late husband, who had been the Society's president in 1919 and 1920. Grateful acknowledgement was made also of a portrait of Jeré A. Downs, a benefactor of the Society and a Trustee from 1933 to 1935. The President was pleased that the membership

curve had continued upward, a total of 7,200 having been reached at that time.

Weather conditions were such that the usual Daffodil Show could not be held at the time of the annual meeting. Indeed, it as well as the Tulip Show, was given up. However, the Librarian, Miss Manks, had arranged an exhibition of valuable prints and original paintings. Following the business meeting she used a lantern and screen to show some of the Society's new slides in color that dealt with the Library's most important treasures.

The result of the balloting showed that Richard C. Paine and Mrs. William A. Parker had been added to the Board of Trustees. The members had voted also to approve an amendment to the By-Laws which served in part at least to meet the demands of the Exhibition and Prize Committees that they be permitted to vote on the award of the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase. The amendment made the Chairman of each of these two Committees a member of the Award Committee, which must make its report to the Trustees, which body must in turn announce the decision in the month of December, as required by the deed of gift.

The Spring Show was the last of the three to be held in Horticultural Hall and was perhaps the best. The attendance, a total of 57,167, was less than in the previous year, but this was due to an agreement with the Office of Defense Transportation not to publicize the Show outside the Boston commutation area because of the hotel and transportation situation. It was again the only large Flower Show in the country and might have been expected to attract visitors from other states. The smaller attendance reduced the profits to $19,952.72.

The outstanding feature of the Show was a California redwood scene set up by the Frost & Higgins Company at the end of the large hall. This unique and spectacular exhibit won a Gold Medal Certificate and at the end of the year was to be awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase. An acacia group in the name of Mrs. Galen L. Stone of Marion won the Gold Medal Certificate of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, in addition to the President's Cup. The award of the Horticultural Society of New York went to the Bay State Nurseries for a Virginia garden. A southwest desert garden won the Massachusetts Department of

Agriculture's prize for F. I. Carter and Sons of Tewksbury. The Beacon Hill Garden Club cup went to the Garden Club Federation for "a well conceived and beautifully carried out garden club exhibit." The new George Holliday Memorial prize was awarded William Todd of North Uxbridge for a group of cinerarias.

Among the unusual exhibits was a five-pointed star featuring education, food, diversion, decor and treatment arranged by the occupational therapy section of the Lovell General Hospital. Another was an exhibition of the work done by Garden Club Service, Inc. at army and navy hospitals. Each received a Silver Medal Certificate. Frank Selner had succeeded Mr. Peirce as landscape consultant and had much to do in connection with this Spring Show.

Items of interest from the other Shows included an award to Dr. George O. Clark for the best bloom in the Camellia Show, the flower being Semi-Double Blush. The New England Region of the American Iris Society was given a Gold Medal Certificate for an outstanding Iris Exhibition, an unusual recognition for an entire show. At the Iris Show Paul Frost set up an iris garden in memory of Miss Grace Sturtevant. At the Harvest Show the Lovell General Hospital received a Silver Medal Certificate for an exhibit of ninety tomato varieties. The newly established Lily Show in July was attended by 3,000 persons and seemed to be growing in popularity. No Autumn Show was held in 1945, but its omission caused so much criticism that the Trustees promised to reinstate it the next year.

It has been expected that a cessation of hostilities would see a diminishing interest in vegetable growing and, indeed, the questions received had shifted in great measure to ornamentals even before peace had been declared. Yet the government was now asking that every effort be made to induce amateurs to go on growing food crops. There was nothing to do it seemed but to encourage people to grow vegetables, as the government wished, along with the ornamental plants which they were determined to grow.

William H. Judd, propagator at the Arnold Arboretum for thirty-three years and a member of the Horticultural Society

since 1922, passed away suddenly on the night of May 23, after hurrying to a fire near his home in Jamaica Plain. He was the first to propagate many of the plants from China and Japan introduced through the Arboretum. Mr. Judd was born in England and for a time was employed at Kew Gardens. He had traveled widely in Europe and was a friend of Lord Aberconway, at whose home he visited several times. He had received the Jackson Dawson Gold Medal and the Veitch Memorial Gold Medal.

Other names which appeared in the necrology list included that of Henry M. Howard, a market gardener who had often exhibited at the Hall, that of Miss Grace Sturtevant, prominent as an iris hybridizer, and that of Professor Frank A. Waugh, who had been awarded the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1941. In the list, too, was the name of Albert Cameron Burrage 3rd, killed in the war.

An important event late in the year was an award to the Society itself—a Certificate from the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, together with a citation acknowledging its indebtedness to the Society for its "invaluable cooperation in the development of the Federation." It was in Horticultural Hall in 1927 that the Federation was organized, after several meetings had been held at the suggestion of Mr. Farrington.

With the war over, the Committee on Gardens began to function again and late in 1945 the Trustees made several awards on its recommendation. The Society's Gold Medal was awarded to the Waltham Field Station of the Massachusetts State College for its educational work and its service to commercial and amateur gardeners. A Scroll was awarded the Boston Victory Garden Committee appointed originally by Mayor Maurice Tobin for its work in developing an outstanding demonstration garden on Boston Common, and testifying also to the success of the Committee in promoting Victory gardens at Franklin Park and other properties belonging to the city. It was stated as a matter of interest that Ernest Hoftyzer, a member of the Board, had served as Chairman of this Committee and that Arno H. Nehrling, the Society's Director of Exhibitions, had served as Secretary. The Trustees voted to award a Scroll to John R. Macomber for his home "Raceland" in Framingham.

The Extensive Planting of Narcissi Made by John Russell at Dedham. Awarded a Gold Medal.

Prize-Winning Display Staged by Dr. Thomas Barbour at a Harvest Show.

The Board also acted on a series of recommendations by the Committee on Special Awards. William N. Craig of Weymouth was chosen for the George Robert White Medal of Honor, as one of the best known horticultural experts of the Eastern states, a man who was retiring from business after a lifetime devoted to the improvement of horticulture, both as to plants and methods. Mr. Ross, who made the recommendation in behalf of his Committee, described Mr. Craig as an outstanding figure in the horticultural world and as having exerted tremendous influence in many horticultural fields, with particular emphasis on lilies. This award was warmly approved.

It was voted to award the Thomas Roland Medal to Professor Edmund F. Palmer, Vineland Station, Ontario, based on the fact that Professor Palmer had distinguished himself in two fields. For twenty years he was in charge of fruit breeding at the Station and had been responsible for most of the new peach varieties being grown on the Niagara Peninsula. He was even more widely known, however, as a gladiolus breeder, having originated many choice varieties, including Picardy.

Walter B. Clarke of San Jose, California, was chosen to receive the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal. He had propagated many worthwhile trees, shrubs and vines, the citation stated, among the most important being garden hybrids of Chaenomeles.

In recommending the Society's Gold Medal for Mrs. John H. Cunningham of Brookline Mr. Ross said, "Mrs. Cunningham has been a driving force in many fields of horticultural activity over a long period, her culminating achievement being her outstanding victory garden work, when she organized and personally supervised the most successful canning kitchen in New England during the war." The Committee also recognized Mrs. Cunningham's exceptional executive ability as shown at the Flower Shows and in her garden club activities, and her success as a gardener as shown by her own place.

It was voted to award the Society's Gold Medal to Daniel O'Brien, head of the school garden work in Boston, where school gardens originated. He had labored for many years to maintain the highest standards in the gardens under his control. In addition, his efforts in behalf of the children's exhibitions at Horti-

cultural Hall had been of such value that the Committee felt they should be recognized in this manner.

Early in the year the resignation of Mrs. Emily I. Elliott as Executive Secretary of the Benevolent Fraternity Fruit and Flower Mission was announced. This followed eighteen years of successful work in developing and expanding the operations of the organization from its office in Horticultural Hall. Mrs. Elliott's energy and enthusiasm were boundless and she gathered about her a band of loyal women who spent many hours preparing baskets and containers for hospitals, elderly people and shut-ins.

The coming of this organization to the Hall in 1922 helped solve a serious problem. Before that time it had been difficult to prevent a scramble for flowers at the close of each Show, sometimes with disastrous results. There were many complaints, too, about the dumping of flowers that were in good condition, and about the loss of fruits and vegetables. Under the new arrangement groups of women move in at the close of each Show and systematically gather up the good material, which is made into bundles and distributed. Miss Ethel E. Hudson was appointed to succeed Mrs. Elliott.

Mr. Ames' mild note of pessimism at the annual meeting in May had been based on a keen understanding of the general situation, it seemed, for the Treasurer's report on December 31 showed a deficit of $4,967.89. This was in spite of the fact that the income from investments had increased by $2,300, that *Horticulture* had earned a small profit, that there had been no Autumn Show loss, and that membership dues had brought in $1,500 more than in the previous year. The building expenses had jumped by $1,600 and office and general expenses by $4,500. Operating costs were rising. However, $19,872.41 of the Joseph E. Chandler bequest had been received, with more to come, and the Treasurer could report a net profit of $9,483.11 on the sale of securities, but of course these sums were added to capital.

1946—A YEAR CROWDED WITH FAR-REACHING EVENTS

THE year 1946 was to be an eventful year in the history of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. It was to see a triumphal return of the Spring Flower Show to Mechanics Building and a larger attendance than at any previous Show. It was to see a rapid increase in membership, a substantial addition to the Society's capital assets, several important changes in the Board of Trustees, the resumption of normal activities in all departments, an increased demand for private gardeners following the war, a satisfactory profit and, at the end of the year, the resignation of the long-time Secretary at the age of 70.

First the Spring Show, which was moved down the street again but only after some hesitation. Mr. Nehrling was certain that the move would be a wise one and the members of the Exhibition Committee backed him up. The tremendous success of the Show, with its record-breaking 129,085 visitors, proved that the Show Manager and the Exhibition Committee had been right. The people of New England were hungry for the great floral spectacle, and with travel restrictions removed, they were able to come from far and near.

It is possible to suggest the vast range of exhibits only as they can be indicated by the special prizes. The Bay State Nurseries set up a Memorial Garden in Grand Hall which won the President's Cup and at the end of the year was to receive the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase as the most outstanding exhibit at any of the Shows. Medals themselves were again given by this Society, but the other horticultural societies continued with certificates. That of the Horticultural Society of New York went to Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames for a Chinese garden. The Pennsylvania Certificate was awarded Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Stone for an informal exhibit of acacias. A garden of cacti and succulents won

the Sarah Todd Bulkley Gold Medal of the Garden Club of America for F. I. Carter & Sons. The Garden Clubs' Exhibition Committee had a very attractive suburban house and garden, with which it won the Beacon Hill Garden Club's Cup, as well as the Society's Gold Medal.

With this successful Show as something for general satisfaction at the annual meeting on May 6, there were yet other matters to be happy about. President Ames reported remarkable growth in membership, a total of more than 8,000 having been reached. He spoke of the wide appeal which the Library was making to gardeners in other states and the service which *Horticulture* performed in calling the attention of its readers to this Library. The President mentioned with regret, however, the resignation of Charles K. Cummings from the Board of Trustees. Mr. Cummings had served long and faithfully as a Vice President and as Chairman of the Library Committee.

Amplifying the President's remarks about the Society's magazine, the Secretary said that a check had been made to ascertain the degree to which it actually served as a feeder for the Society. It was found that thirty-one subscribers had become members in the month of February and sixty-five in March. It was also attracting new members to both the New York and Pennsylvania societies.

Transferring the Spring Show to Mechanics Building had made the work at Horticultural Hall much easier, the Secretary said. The Hall itself had suffered physically to some extent from the great crowds which had assembled there for the war-time Shows and considerable work would be needed in refinishing the floors and walls.

In his last report as Chairman of the Library Committee, Mr. Cummings said that the information booth in charge of the Librarian at the Spring Flower Show had provided an unusual opportunity to reach a wider public. The number of questions asked and the sale of garden books were double those in any previous year. Mr. Cummings said that 323 books had been added to the collection and that about half the books borrowed went outside the state, some to points as far away as California, Mexico and Nova Scotia. A new edition of "Four Hundred Books

for Amateur Gardeners" was being sent to all members. In closing his term of office, Mr. Cummings paid tribute to the service rendered by Miss Manks, the Librarian.

At the close of the annual meeting tea was served under the direction of Mrs. Roger S. Warner, assisted by other members of the Board. Thus was inaugurated a custom which was to persist to the present time and which has proved the most satisfactory solution yet devised for attracting a reasonably good attendance at the annual meetings. There was, of course, a social hour in connection with the serving of tea. Another pleasant event in the course of the afternoon was the presentation of the George Robert White Medal of Honor to William N. Craig.

When the ballots had been counted, it was announced that Aubrey B. Butler of Northampton had been elected a Vice President and that W. P. Wolcott had been added to the Board.

A highly important event in 1946 was a ruling by the Department of Internal Revenue in Washington in respect to the classification of the Society. In the future, it was announced, no taxes would be imposed on bequests and gifts to the organization. This was the result of a long and comprehensive brief filed with the department by Charles Hovey and Kenneth W. Bergen, attorneys representing the Society. Efforts had been made twice before to obtain such a decision but had failed.

The campaign for adding to the Society's Endowment Fund was closed in 1946, although various sums from pledges were to continue to come in. The campaign was not as successful as had been hoped, but the amount raised was not insignificant, the total at the time being $31,319.95.

In the course of the year Richard C. Paine found it necessary to resign as a Trustee and Stedman Buttrick was chosen by the Board to fill out the balance of his term. Later Mr. Buttrick was to be elected by the Society and to become very active, as will be noted.

Mr. Nehrling attended the organization meeting of United Horticulture in Cleveland and was elected a Director. He also attended a meeting in Washington to discuss the food situation from the viewpoint of the amateur gardener.

In the course of the year the Trustees voted to participate in

a plan to place a suitable stone on the grave of Ernest H. Wilson in Mt. Royal Cemetery in Montreal. Contributions for this purpose were started by the Royal Horticultural Society, with an appropriation of $500. An appropriation was also made by the Horticultural Club of Boston, over which Mr. Wilson at one time presided.

Edwin F. Steffek returned from military service in 1946 and resumed his work as editorial assistant, most of his time being devoted to a revision of "The Plant Buyer's Index," which had been purchased from the widow of J. Woodward Manning. This book was to be completely rewritten and issued in a new form as "The Plant Buyer's Guide." It was to be a long, tedious undertaking, but one well worthwhile.

In 1946 the Trustees were approached for the second time with a tentative offer to purchase the building. Although this approach was made through a real estate agent, it was believed to have come from one of the Society's neighbors. The members of the Board replied that they were not interested in such a transaction. Actually, they were giving consideration to a possible reconstruction of the building so as to provide additional exhibition space and to make the Library more accessible, but in the end all such plans were abandoned, as the cost would be excessive.

For a time a section of the smaller hall was turned into a reception room, with an attendant to answer questions and refer visitors to the departments they might wish to visit. However, this arrangement had to be given up because of the many rentals which demanded the full use of this hall. Later a large, portable bulletin board for the purpose of directing visitors to the departments they might wish to visit was installed near the entrance and has proved very useful.

Four medals were awarded in 1946 on recommendation of the Garden Committee, with George Lewis as Chairman. Mrs. R. Boyer Miller received the H. H. Hunnewell Medal for her estate in Wenham, an unusual place on a hillside and terraced on three levels, with supporting walls planted to rock garden material.

Mrs. Arthur Adams was awarded a Silver Medal for her estate in Dover, where wide use had been made of fruit trees grown in

espalier form around a large garden. Both apples trees and pear trees had been used with great success.

A Silver Medal also went to Mr. and Mrs. William Stuart Forbes for their estate in Hamilton, where the house and garden had been tied together with exceptional skill, a delightfully intimate effect being obtained.

The Wenham estate of Mr. and Mrs. Ellery Sedgwick won them the Society's Bronze Medal because of its interesting and distinctive character, with many ornamental cherries and other trees with a weeping habit.

One more honor was added to the many given Dr. Elmer Drew Merrill, former Director of the Arnold Arboretum, when he was awarded the George Robert White Medal in 1946 for service to horticulture. Dr. Merrill began his career at the University of Maine in his native state, but established his reputation as an outstanding botanist after he went to the Philippines in 1902 to join the Bureau of Agriculture and the Bureau of Forestry. Later he became head of the Department of Botany in the University of the Philippines and Director of the Bureau of Science. He wrote many papers on the botany of the Philippines and near-by countries, and described 3,000 new species of plants. A new phase of his career began in 1923, when he became Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of California. In 1930 he was called to New York to become Professor of Botany at Columbia University and Director of the New York Botanical Garden. In 1935 he was appointed Professor of Botany and Administrator of the botanical collections at Harvard University. This appointment automatically placed him in charge of the Arnold Arboretum, where he served until he resigned in 1946.

Dr. Merrill was credited with more than 400 botanical papers. He held membership in many learned societies here and abroad, and had the distinction of being the only American member of the Royal Swedish Society.

The Thomas Roland Medal for skill in horticulture was awarded Thomas H. Everett of New York, a finished garden craftsman and an excellent instructor. A graduate of Kew Gar-

dens, he came to this country to take charge of the H. E. Manville estate in Pleasantville, N. Y. and soon acquired an enviable reputation by his exhibits at the New York Flower Show. Appointed horticulturist at the New York Botanical Garden in 1932, he at once began revitalizing one of the country's great indoor plant collections.

Miss Isabella Preston, long connected with the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa, was awarded the Jackson Dawson Medal for skill in hybridizing and propagating lilies, lilacs and other garden material. Her so-called "stenographer" lilies had been attracting much attention at flower shows. Miss Preston was an Englishwoman and trained in the best tradition of British gardening. She was the author of the book "Lilies for Every Garden."

A Gold Medal went to Dr. Albert F. Blakeslee, a member of the botany department of Smith College, for research in plant breeding. He had formerly been a staff member at Harvard and the University of Connecticut, as well as Director of the Carnegie Station for Experimental Evolution. The much publicized technique of influencing plant heredity by applying the drug colchicine to cause chromosome changes was one of Dr. Blakeslee's innovations.

For many years James J. Hurley had been a consistent exhibitor at the Horticultural Society's Shows as superintendent for Mrs. Robert Treat Paine, II. His rare skill had brought many awards. He now received a Gold Medal.

During the year the Trustees voted $100 to aid in carrying on the backyard garden work in a near-by section of the city, work in which the Society had long had an interest as has been noted.

In 1946 the Dahlia Show was abandoned after having been scheduled for many years. Interest in dahlias had obviously been waning in New England. The New England Dahlia Society, which had been responsible for the Show, was losing its members and most of the men who had set up exhibits were becoming inactive. So the Show had to be discontinued and no attempt has been made to revive it.

It was voted by the Trustees that Gold Medals be struck for

persons entitled to them but who had been given certificates during the emergency period.

In December Mr. Farrington announced his resignation as Secretary, to take effect on the last day of the year. He was tendered a complimentary dinner at the Algonquin Club which was attended by the Officers and Trustees and was presented a valuable gift, along with a Scroll. Later he received a set of Shakespeare figurines from the Massachusetts Federation of Garden Clubs.

It was fortunate that the Spring Show had shown a large profit, for the earned surplus fund on the Treasurer's books had been exhausted and a small deficit still remained, although *Horticulture* could report a substantial income and membership fees had increased by about $2,000. The deficit was wiped out by the Show profits and the sum of $12,558.23 was added to the Show Insurance Fund, increasing this fund to $53,177.93. The Fund has remained at this figure to the present time, the interest being used for the support of the Summer and Fall Shows.

1947—ADVENT OF A NEW SECRETARY BRINGS MANY CHANGES

ON JANUARY 1, 1947, Arno H. Nehrling became Secretary of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, only the fourth since a paid Secretary was first appointed in 1876. He was to be known as Executive Secretary to make his position clear, but his duties and responsibilities were to be no different from those of his predecessors. Fourteen years as director of exhibitions had made him fully acquainted with the Society's traditions, purposes and activities, for all the departments at Horticultural Hall are closely interlocked and interdependent. The change brought about certain rearrangements, however. Mr. Farrington had been Secretary and Editor and it had been necessary to employ a Show Manager. Now Mr. Nehrling was to be Secretary and Show Manager and it became necessary to employ an Editor, although Mr. Nehrling was to have general supervision of *Horticulture* with the title Director of Publications.

William H. Clark, an experienced journalist and author, who had previously been the Society's press representative, was selected as *Horticulture's* Editor with the understanding that he would continue his press contacts. In the Spring George Graves, who had been Assistant Editor and Garden Consultant, left the Society to open a nursery on Martha's Vineyard, where he was to specialize in the propagation of beach plums and both American and English hollies. He had already received the Jewett prize for his reports on the commercial cultivation of beach plums.

It was necessary to plunge at once into the final preparations for the Spring Show, which posed more than the usual number of problems, caused by a shortage in labor and more particularly an increase of ten to fifteen per cent in the cost of supplies. However, the attendance was only a little less than in the previous year, despite a rainy day, and the profit was $75,158.

A particular popular feature at the Show was a Vermont covered bridge set up by Sherman Eddy, which received a Gold Medal and was to be awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase at the end of the year. The Bay State Nurseries won the President's Cup with a house and garden on the stage. The award of the Horticultural Society of New York went to Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Stone for their acacias and that of the Pennsylvania Society to Mrs. Helen Adams of Wellesley for cypripediums showing the highest degree of culture.

William Todd of North Uxbridge again won the George Holliday Memorial prize, showing beautifully grown clivias. The Beacon Hill Garden Club's Cup was won by the "Winter Gardeners" with a greenhouse and sun-heated pit. The Sarah Todd Bulkley Gold Medal of the Garden Club of America went to Mrs. Irving C. Wright, co-chairman of the Garden Clubs' Exhibition Committee, for her work in planning the exhibit of that group. This committee, headed by Mrs. James Perkins and Mrs. Wright, was also awarded a Gold Medal for a contemporary house and garden. It was interesting to find a Gold Medal going to Lord Aberconway for a group of white cypripediums sent over from London.

At the annual meeting on May 6 Mr. Nehrling appeared as Secretary for the first time, reading an interesting report. First, however, Mr. Ames made his annual address as President. He referred to the change in secretaryship and it may not be outside the bounds of modesty to quote a few lines from his address as a matter of record. "When Mr. Farrington took over the duties of Secretary," Mr. Ames said "the affairs of the Society were rather dormant, but during his years of activity he completely revitalized the organization. Between 1923 and 1946 the membership was increased from 1,010 to nearly 9,000. He greatly extended the services and influence of the Society so that it became in effect a national organization with members in forty-six of the forty-eight states. He greatly enlarged the size and circulation of the magazine *Horticulture,* giving it a commanding position in gardening journalism."

Mr. Ames then congratulated the Society on being able to obtain in Mr. Nehrling a man who had been with the Society for

fourteen years and who had both the experience and capacity to take over the duties and responsibilities of this exacting position.

Mr. Ames reported on the bequest of Miss Marian Roby Case and that of her sister, Miss Louisa Case, who passed away in 1946. Half the total of $100,000 had been received, Mr. Ames said. The house and grounds in Sudbury which had come to the Society, as noted, through the will of Joseph E. Chandler had been sold, Mr. Ames stated, for approximately $25,000. Mr. Chandler, whose death occurred in 1945, had been a Trustee of the Society and had supervised much of the decorative work within its building. It was voted to establish a memorial fund to carry Mr. Chandler's name, the interest to be used for general expenses.

The Secretary's report showed a marked upsurge of interest in the Society, more than 1,600 new members having been added since the previous annual meeting, making the total membership 9,440, the largest in the Society's history.

Mr. Nehrling explained a new educational program. A Spring course in the planting of home grounds, designed primarily for veterans starting new homes, had been largely attended. A course for school children had been planned, along with a series of lectures, which would bring a number of prominent speakers to the Hall. Mr. Nehrling spoke also of plans to expand *Horticulture* as soon as the paper shortage would permit. Thus a well-rounded program which promised well for the Society's future was being mapped out. Professor Ray M. Koon was added to the Board of Trustees in 1947.

The Society was host to three national horticultural societies in the course of the year. The American Delphinium Society and the American Peony Society participated in the June exhibition, while the Chrysanthemum Society of America contributed much to the Autumn Show. The last named was considered by experts the best Chrysanthemum Show in many years. The Lily Show in July brought enthusiastic growers from many parts of the country and then and there the North American Lily Society was born.

A new exhibtion, one devoted to house plants, was included in the schedule and proved of interest to many women. The exhibits

of begonias and African violets were remarkably comprehensive.

However, the Trustees decided at the end of the year that thirteen exhibitions in a single season were too many. The cost was too great and too little time was left for needed repairs and a proper grooming of the building. Accordingly it was voted to reduce the number of Shows in 1948 to ten. The Peony, Iris, and Rose Shows in June were to be combined and the House Plant Show united with the Harvest Exhibition.

It was a particularly busy year for Mr. Nehrling. He attended the annual conference of the American Horticultural Council in New York and was a speaker. He was elected Secretary to the Council at that meeting. He represented the Society in Washington on certain proposed changes in the quarantine laws and presented the position of the Society, which was in opposition to the proposed changes. He attended a meeting of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Foundation at Swarthmore, Pa., as a member of the committee appointed to award the Arthur Hoyt Scott Medal. With Dr. Merrill, representing Harvard University, he attended a dinner in Ithaca, N. Y. honoring Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey, who had just observed his ninetieth birthday.

The Garden Committee confined itself to three awards in 1947. A Gold Medal went to Stedman Buttrick, on recommendation of the Committee, for an estate in Concord laid out with much skill and with gardens maintained at a high level of culture. Mr. Buttrick's collection of irises, which made the gardens especially notable, contained and still contains at this writing a great many of the choicest varieties.

The remarkable plantings of narcissi maintained by John Russell in Dedham won him a Gold Medal, also. Many thousands of narcissi in hundreds of varieties on acres of almost untouched old pasture land created, the Committee believed, one of the best examples of the use of Spring bulbs in a naturalistic planting to be found in this country.

The Society's Silver Medal was awarded H. Wendell Endicott of Dedham for a very extensive planting of tulips.

Ernest F. Coe, a resident of Coconut Grove, Florida, received the George Robert White Medal in 1947. Mr. Coe was known as the "father of Everglades National Park," which fact indicated

one reason for this award. The truth is that this park came into being only after many years of sacrificial work on the part of Mr. Coe, who had devoted much of his entire adult life to the project. At the time of this award he was in his eighty-first year.

The Thomas Roland Medal for skill in horticulture went to Eric Walther of Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. In its citation the Committee on Special Medals declared that Mr. Walther had accomplished a most remarkable undertaking in assembling a beautiful collection of native and exotic plants in a new botanic garden of seven acres.

To Dr. M. A. Blake of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station went the Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal. Dr. Blake had worked with fruits for many years, specializing in the development of peaches, an important crop in his section. Actually the new varieties he created had revitalized peach-growing all over the country.[1]

Ernest Borowski was voted a Gold Medal for his horticultural skill as demonstrated in the propagation of plants, especially azaleas. The Committee believed him to be the country's outstanding authority on the cultivation of greenhouse azaleas.

A particularly sad event in 1947 was the death of William N. Craig at his home in Weymouth. Mr. Craig was one of the ablest plantsmen of his time and a man whose personality and achievements had made him honored and respected on both sides of the water. Coming to the United States in 1890 after a thorough training in his native England, he established himself in eastern Massachusetts, where he was to spend the rest of his life. For many years he managed the famed F. L. Ames estate in North Easton and later Faulkner Farm in Brookline.

Mr. Craig was a correspondent of the *Florists Review* for forty-five years and wrote for the old *Garden and Forest* when that publication was in the heyday of its popularity. He was an active member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and at one time a member of the Board of Trustees. He was presented the George Robert White medal by President Ames at the annual

[1] When this award was made it was not known, of course, that Dr. Blake had just passed away. When the Medal was received at Rutgers, the heirs of Dr. Blake presented it to the college.

meeting of the Society in 1946. He had not missed a regular meeting of the Gardeners' and Florists' Club in thirty-nine years and had long held office in the club. He was a member of the Horticultural Club of Boston and the National Association of Gardeners.

In the course of 1947 a large portrait of Edwin S. Webster, who preceded Mr. Ames as President, was received and was hung in the Secretary's office. It had been painted in 1925 by Philip A. de Laszlo.

In the course of the year Mr. Ames and Mr. Nehrling discovered in the Society's strong box in the First National Bank a bottle of seeds taken from the corner stone of the first Horticultural Hall, which was on School street. Mr. Koon agreed to take half the seeds from the bottle and make a test to ascertain if they were still viable. It may be said that the results were negative. The seeds did not sprout.

The Treasurer's report at the end of the year disclosed that the Greater Endowment Fund had been raised to $35,460.16. The income from investments had increased by about $6,000 and that from rentals by about $5,000, with a small profit from *Horticulture*. However, work on the building had increased expenditures by over $10,000. The balance on the right side of the ledger was $3,642.44.

1948—IMPORTANT CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

THE Society began the year 1948 with a membership of 11,000, the largest in its long history. It was to continue to grow through the year by another thousand, with a vigorous campaign under way. It was not to be an exciting year, but one of expansion and rehabilitation. In fact, a year of normalcy. Improved conditions made possible much repair work which necessarily had been postponed, some of it the result of wear and tear caused by holding the war-time Spring Shows in Horticultural Hall. The task of cleaning the portraits, begun the year before, was to be continued. Trustees had decided on having ten portraits cleaned each year until all had been restored.

Beginning with January the magazine *Horticulture,* which had been published first as a weekly and later twice a month, was issued monthly, but enlarged and improved in various ways. Conditions were now more favorable to its expansion both editorially and in its circulation. Mr. Clark, the new Editor, attended the convention of the Men's Garden Clubs of America in Atlanta and represented this Society at a luncheon of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society at the time of the March Flower Show in Philadelphia.

Mr. Nehrling represented President Ames at a dinner given by the Horticultural Society of New York in connection with the International Flower show. He presented this Society's Gold Medal to Lambertus C. Bobbink of the firm of Bobbink & Atkins for having had the best garden at the 1947 Show in New York, and a similar Medal to Don Roehrs for the best garden in 1948.

This brings us to the Boston Show, held as usual in Mechanics Building. It was an unusually expensive show because of an exceptional amount of construction required in preparation for a Dutch village on the stage, which set the theme for Grand Hall. Furthermore, nearly all the exhibits in that Hall were developed

at the expense of the Society itself, although the tulip bulbs, used in great numbers, were supplied without charge by the Dutch Tulip Growers Association. Altogether, the cost of the Show was well over $100,000 and it is not surprising that those in charge were somewhat worried as the installation work progressed. However, this worry proved groundless, for crowds poured into the building from the opening hour, the total attendance for the week being 115,000. Although the profit was less than that of the previous year, it totaled $51,000, there being the advantage of a higher admission rate. Egbert Hans again was active in setting up this show, there being a large amount of scenery to paint.

Grand Hall was rich in color, but many of the choicest exhibits were in the other halls. Alexander I. Heimlich had a naturalistic garden so good that it won the Society's Gold Medal, the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York, the Charles H. Totty Memorial Medal and the Sarah Todd Bulkley Medal of the Garden Club of America, while at the end of the year was to be awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for the best exhibit at any of the season's Shows.[1]

Lexington Nurseries, Inc. won the President's Cup for a "Garden of Reverie" and the Gold Medal Certificate of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society went to Albert A. Hulley for a rose garden in the manner that had won him many awards in the past. The George Holiday Memorial Prize was awarded Peter Arnott, gardener for Mr. Webster, and the Beacon Hill Garden Club's Cup was received by the Groton Garden Club for an exhibit showing the corner of a fruit garden.

The Junior League Garden Club set up a June border of such excellent quality that it won a cup offered by Mrs. John S. Ames. William Todd of North Uxbridge continued to win laurels for his skill as a gardener, being awarded the Antoine Leuthy Gold Medal, a new award made possible by a fund established by Mr. Leuthy, long a prominent Boston florist.

Several changes in the Board of Trustees were announced at the annual meeting. William P. Wolcott had passed away, while Q. A. Shaw McKean had resigned because of a change in resi-

[1] No record has been found of any other exhibit that has received so many awards in the history of the Society.

dence. Harlan P. Kelsey, a Trustee for many years, declined re-election and was succeeded by his son Seth L. Kelsey. John Chandler was elected for one year to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. McKean. George B. Cabot was chosen to succeed Mr. Wolcott.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees which followed the annual meeting Mr. Hunnewell resigned as Treasurer and Mr. Buttrick was selected to succeed him. George Lewis, Jr. was again made assistant Treasurer.

In his report at the annual meeting Mr. Nehrling paid tribute to Mr. Wolcott, who had devoted himself in several capacities to the Society's welfare. He was of the third generation in his family to be active in the affairs of the Society. The Secretary spoke of a successful radio program over WHDH conducted by Seth L. Kelsey, with the station contributing the time. He made mention, too, of a lecture by John Nash Ott, Jr., which was so well attended that it had to be immediately repeated. Several other lectures were given as a contribution to the Freedom Garden movement then being promoted by the government.

Dr. Merrill in his report as Chairman of the Exhibition Committee made special mention of a newly organized Women's Exhibition Committee of the Society. A group of garden club women had been acting unofficially for several years in the setting up of important exhibits at the Spring Show. The Trustees had now brought this group within the framework of the organization. It was given a certain amount of financial support and has continued to function with great credit.[2]

Samuel J. Goddard was appointed Chairman of the Prize Committee to follow Dr. Clark, with Thomas Milne acting as Co-Chairman. Mr. Goddard remained as Chairman also of the Committee on the Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens. It was a matter of great regret that he was unable to act in either capacity after the early Summer Shows. Before the coming of the next Spring Show he had passed away. His loss was felt deeply not only by the Trustees but throughout the Society, for he had been active on various committees for many years and was very well known. He had been a Trustee since 1930. A florist in Fram-

[2] It is still a temporary committee in effect, however, as no provision for it has yet been made in the By-Laws or by vote of the Society.

ingham, he was sagacious and always dependable. Such criticisms as he had to make as Chairman of the Committee on Prizes were given with a smile and always accepted graciously.

Of the Summer Shows only the one devoted to lilies was of special importance, although the attendance at all of them was larger than usual. The year-old North American Lily Society held its first annual meeting in connection with the Lily Show, and interested gardeners from several other states were present. The Show was rated as the largest and most successful Lily Exhibition ever held in this country. Yet it was to be the last one at Horticultural Hall, at least for the years immediately ahead. Its value was not sufficient, the Trustees thought, to warrant the time and expense required to put it on. Also, it came in July, the one month in which there was an opportunity to make needed repairs and give the Hall a general renovation.

Because of Mr. Goddard's illness another member of the committee, Daniel W. O'Brien, took charge of the Children's Garden Show, at which there was a remarkable increase in the number of entries, due to favorable growing conditions.

Announcement of the death of the Secretary of the Fruit and Flower Mission, Miss Ethel E. Hudson, was received late in the year with deep regret. Miss Hudson was efficient, tactful, always ready with a smile and devoted to her work. Mrs. Ida A. Perkins was appointed to succeed her.

The Committee on Gardens, with Dr. Clark as Chairman, recommended only three awards in 1948 and omitted the H. H. Hunnewell medal altogether. Apparently it was becoming increasingly difficult to meet the requirements of this award, as the Medal could be given only for estates of three acres or over showing exceptional tree and shrub planting and the highest form of cultivation. Most large estates had not been kept at a high level following the war, but there was now an increased demand for experienced gardeners.

The Society's Gold Medal was awarded the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway for a "garden of exceptional merit." Many persons who visit the Museum fail to visit the garden adjacent to the building, really a demonstration garden of great educational value.

The Society's Silver Medal was awarded Mr. and Mrs. Willard Hudson of 44 Winthrop Street, Winchester, for "the skillful development of the outdoor living-room type of garden." This garden was recommended by the Committee as one that might well be emulated.

A Silver Medal was given also to Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Stoddard, Bass Rocks, Gloucester, "for a wonderful transformation of bare rocks into a beautiful garden combining the best features of a boulder terrain as a background."

The Special Medals Committee, with Mr. Ross as Chairman, selected Lord Aberconway, President of the Royal Horticultural Society, to receive the George Robert White Medal of Honor. Lord Aberconway was described as probably the outstanding figure of his day in British horticulture.[3]

Henry Kohankie of Painesville, Ohio, was chosen for the Thomas Roland Medal, because of his great skill in horticulture and his interest in unusual trees and shrubs, many of them difficult to find elsewhere.

To Professor H. B. Tukey, then head of the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State College, went the Jackson Dawson Medal for his skill in the hybridization and propagation of hardy woody plants. Dr. Tukey was formerly connected with Cornell University and the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, where he did distinguished work in the production of new small fruit varieties.

George Palmer, awarded the Society's Gold Medal, had been exhibiting at the Society's shows for many years, as superintendent for Mrs. R. M. Saltonstall. In fact, the records disclosed that he had exhibited at more Shows conducted by this Society than any other single person. He seemed able to grow any type of plant material, but was particularly successful with standard heliotropes, fuchsias, roses and geraniums, admirable plants for exhibition purposes but not undertaken by many greenhouse men.

The director of the Berkshire Garden Center at Stockbridge, A. Kenneth Simpson, had become widely known for his administrative ability and his horticultural skill. The Committee felt that

[3] Lord Aberconway died in 1953.

he well deserved the Society's Gold Medal. Gardening is comparatively difficult in the Berkshire hills, and yet the region is famous for its gardens and the diversity of its plant material. Much of the present-day success there is due to the influence of the Berkshire Garden Center and Mr. Simpson.

Dr. Hugh P. Baker, then retired and living in Winter Park, Florida, was honored with a Scroll setting forth some of his many accomplishments. Long head of the Massachusetts State College, he saw the institution grow into the University of Massachusetts and, indeed, was largely responsible for the transformation.

Mr. Nehrling made a trip to Miami in December to present the George Robert White Medal of Honor to Ernest F. Coe, to whom it had previously been awarded as noted. While in the South he selected much of the plant material to be used in a tropical scene at the 1949 Spring Show.

Plans were announced this year for a new venture to be inaugurated in 1949—"Garden Week in Massachusetts." Miss Mary May Binney had been chosen to head a committee to map out the new activity.

The year ended with a comfortable balance in the treasury, $9,107.51, to be exact. Contributing to the good results in 1948 were an increased income from investments and somewhat higher membership returns, plus a very successful Show. The Earned Surplus Fund had grown to $12,749.95. Careful management had kept the office and Library expenses below those of the previous year, but repairs had increased the building expenses, while both the Autumm Show and *Horticulture* had experienced losses. On the whole, except for a long necrology list, a total of 110, it had been a very satisfactory year.

1949—AN UNEXPECTED WINDFALL AND A BUSY YEAR

MUCH of the time in the early months of 1949 was given over to preparations for the new project, "Garden Week in Massachusetts," with Mary May Binney as Chairman of the committee in charge. Miss Binney gave almost all her time to the undertaking, scouting for estates and gardens which might be opened to the public and checking the most feasible routes. Activities of this kind had been popular in Virginia, Maryland and other states, but until this time garden visitations in Massachusetts had been confined to smaller organizations and conducted on a less extensive scale. Looking forward to June, it may be said that some fifty gardens were opened, that busses were used to supplement private cars and that visitors came from several other states. The venture was so successful, in fact, that the Trustees voted at once to repeat it in 1950.

The most important event of the new year was, of course, the great Spring Flower show, at which Grand Hall was treated as a unit by the Society, with the cooperation of selected exhibitors. The basic theme was a tropical jungle, which called for great numbers of orchids to be used to show, as far as possible, their methods of growth in their natural habitat. Members of the Society, both amateurs and commercial growers, did their part in supplying plants. Experts gave their services and special lighting effects were developed under the direction of C. Hassler Capron.

This was a very ambitious undertaking and one that received wide publicity. The Society itself was awarded the Bulkley Medal of the Garden Club of America for the display. The Robert Stone acacias were set up at one end of Grand Hall and never had been exhibited to better advantage. Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Stone were awarded the President's Cup for this exhibit.

Among the other exhibits of special note was an informal garden staged by Harlan P. Kelsey, Inc., which was so good that it won the Society's Gold Medal and the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York. In addition it was to be given the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase at the end of the year as the most outstanding exhibit at any of the Shows. Edwin S. Webster's orchids won two special awards, the Gold Medal Certificate of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the Antoine Leuthy Gold Medal.

The garden clubs were particularly active at this Show. The North Shore Garden Club contributed a "Chinese Tea Merchant's Garden," for which it won a cup offered by Mrs. John S. Ames. The Beacon Hill Garden Club Cup went to the Buzzards Bay Garden Club for a unique exhibit called the "Garden of Peter Rabbit."

George Finnie, a seasoned gardener, came down from Dublin, N. H. to win the George Holliday Memorial Prize with a group of cinerarias, plants which must be exceptionally good to become prize winners.

The attendance at the 1949 Show fell off somewhat, but it totaled 110,197, with one rather poor day because of bad weather. Of course the net receipts were proportionately less, the amount being $60,607.96, but that amount was very satisfactory, as Mr. Buttrick, the Treasurer, commented and the Show was a tremendous artistic success. Harold Stevenson, landscape architect, had become technical adviser and had done yeoman service at this Show.

At the annual meeting which, as always, soon followed the Spring Show, Mr. Ames, the President, was able to report a bequest of $30,298.86 from the estate of Francis Brown Hayes. This windfall was unexpected, for Mr. Hayes died in 1898 and the officers had forgotten a trust fund established by him that was to come to the Society when the last recipient of the trust should pass away. Mr. Hayes was one of the Society's greatest benefactors, for he gave it $189,904.54 by will when he died. He had been President of the Society and active in many ways. Mr. Ames also announced additional contributions to the endowment fund

amounting to $1,281.30. His report on the membership showed an increase to about 12,000, once more the largest in the Society's history.

In his report as executive Secretary Mr. Nehrling announced the resignation of Edwin F. Steffek, associate editor, who had become a member of the *House Beautiful* staff in New York. George Taloumis, an experienced horticulturist and a talented writer, had been engaged to succeed Mr. Steffek. Mr. Nehrling spoke of the great Spring Flower Show in Oakland, California, which he had attended the week before, calling it the largest and most spectacular exhibition he had ever seen. The purpose of his visit was to obtain new ideas for the Boston Show and he was able to make many notes. While in California he also attended the Spring Show at Coronado, conducted by retired army and navy officers.

Reporting for the Library Committee, Dr. Merrill said that 459 volumes had been added since the 1948 annual meeting, but called attention to the fact that prices placed by dealers on important old books had increased enormously. Nevertheless, a serious attempt was being made to acquire certain of the older books as well as keeping up to date with current horticultural literature, thus maintaining a proper balance between the old and the new. The services provided by the Library were indicated in part by the statement that nearly 4,500 books had been loaned to members in the course of the year, going to all parts of the country. Dr. Merrill explained that rare and expensive volumes and those in constant use for reference purposes were not mailed out, but that photostats and microfilm could be supplied at cost. The gifts received included two cases of nursery catalogues from the Royal Horticultural Society in London.

Stedman Buttrick made his first report as Treasurer at this meeting and found the financial condition of the Society gratifying. He wondered if the members realized the size and scope of the Society's operations, and mentioned the expenditures for the year 1948—a total of $329,082. That large amount of money represented literally thousands of separate expenditures, covering a bewildering variety of items, from the purchase of rare old books

for the Library to organ music at the Spring Show. Oliver Wolcott was added to the Board of Trustees at this meeting.

Nine Shows were held in the course of 1949, all except the Spring and Fall Shows being open to the public without charge. All attempts to make the Fall Show pay its way had proved fruitless down through the years, there having been only a single time when this was accomplished. A new approach was tried in 1949, the introduction of trade space in a limited amount. It was a successful innovation, for it cut the expense of the Show by almost a thousand dollars. Moreover, it pleased the public, many visitors taking the opportunity to buy bulbs and other garden material. It was a plan that had been discussed for several years but adopted only with hesitation. Yet it was accepted so willingly that it seemed likely to become a permanent feature.

The 1949 Children's Show was the first under the direction of the new Chairman, Mrs. Roger S. Warner. Much help was given by Mrs. Henry D. Tudor, who had become greatly interested in this work, and by Daniel W. O'Brien and Henry G. Wendler, both long and consistent supporters of the Show. Of special interest was a large exhibit from the school garden on the Cummings estate in Woburn, operated by the Boston School Department in cooperation with the Boston Park Department. This exhibit showed such high quality that it won not only first prize but also the Silver Medal of the Horticultural Society and a sweepstake Rosette from the Department of Agriculture. It was interesting to find Mrs. Tudor donating $350 as a fund to be used for the purchase of milk for the children working at the Woburn garden through the Summer of 1950.

It should be noted that the Summer of 1949 was excessively hot and dry, the driest for forty years, which fact had its effect on all the Summer and Fall Shows.

An observance of the Centennial of the Concord grape was held in connection with the Harvest Show in September. Wilfrid Wheeler was in charge of the formal program and, as a native of Concord, he was able to talk entertainingly about the conditions under which Ephraim Bull originated this famous grape and the difficulties he had in getting it recognized and accepted.

There was sadness in many circles when Mrs. Helen Noyes Webster passed away on March 21, 1949. Mrs. Webster had been an active and highly valued member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for eighteen years. Like her late husband she was devoted to botany and gardening, but in her later years had concentrated on the study and cultivation of herbs, acquiring knowledge which led to the writing of a very successful book on the subject. She was among the founders of the Herb Society of America, which was to become widely influential. No woman was ever more generous with her time and energy than Mrs. Webster and the high regard in which she was held was reflected in verses written in tribute to her and appearing in the Horticultural Society's Year Book for 1949.

It was painful to find many other well-known names in the 1949 necrology list. Among them was that of Mrs. Homer Gage, at one time an active Trustee and the owner of an attractive estate in Shrewsbury for which she had received an award from the Society. Another name was that of Robert T. Jackson of Peterboro, N. H., who had been an active member when living in Cambridge and whose garden is mentioned four times in Mr. Benson's history. Professor Jackson was considered an authority on peonies.

J. Horace McFarland's name appears, too. Although living in Harrisburg, Pa., Dr. McFarland had long been a member of the Society, from which he had received the George Robert White Medal of Honor. In the list was the name of Duncan Finlayson, long superintendent of the Larz Anderson estate in Brookline and one of the best known gardeners in New England, a man of remarkable ability. The name of Harry Norton was also there, a charming man who had a home in Montreal as well as one in Boston and could bring down lilacs long after they had gone out of bloom in this area. He was a peony devotee and often exhibited at the Boston Shows.

In the list was the name of Mrs. Albert C. Burrage, that of Mrs. Gordon Abbott and the name of Miss Annie R. Blanchard. The close association of these fine people with the Society will be long remembered. Each necrology list contains the names of persons to whom the Society owed much.

The Men's Garden Club of Boston came into being during the year, following a meeting at Horticultural Hall attended by representatives of the New York City club. Allen H. Wood, Jr., author, lecturer and garden expert, often heard over the air, was elected President. Edward I. Farrington was made Secretary and the holding of monthly meetings began.

The Secretary of the Horticultural Society, Mr. Nehrling, was able to give the following list of organizations meeting in Horticultural Hall in 1949:

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts.
Associated Flower Arrangers of Massachusetts.
New England Wild Flower Preservation Society.
New England Gladiolus Society.
Gourd Society of America.
Herb Society of America.
American Rock Garden Society.
Gardeners' and Florists' Club of Boston.
Boston Branch of the American Association of Gardeners.
New England Iris Society.
New England Branch of the American Iris Society.
New England Rose Society.
Arbortists Association.
Men's Garden Club of Boston.

Occasionally the Society awards Medals to persons in other countries, but 1949 was the first year in which a Medal had gone to an individual in South America. On this occasion the George Robert White medal of Honor was awarded to Dr. Wilson Popenoe, Director, Escuele Agricola Panamericana, Honduras. Dr. Popenoe was one of the most prominent figures of the day in the field of tropical horticulture. He first distinguished himself in California, where he worked with the avocado and the date palm. Later he was active for twelve years as agricultural explorer for the federal government. This work led him into Latin America and to the staff of the United Fruit Company. He moved to Honduras and there established the institution which he was to head. It was possible to bestow this award personally through a member of the Society's Board of Trustees, as Dr. Merrill was

a guest of the school at the time of the presentation ceremony.

The Thomas Roland Medal went to Montague Free, formerly of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and well known as a skilled horticulturist, a brilliant writer and a popular lecturer. The Special Awards Committee established a precedent when it awarded not one but two Jackson Dawson Memorial Medals in one year. Chosen for these medals were Professor Richard Wellington and Professor George Slate, both of the New York State Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y. They had won prominence by their work in the development of new fruits along approximately parallel lines, work which had been of no little benefit to fruit growers and the general public. Professor Slate was also well known for his work with lilies.

Dr. Kenneth Post of Cornell University was awarded the Society's Gold Medal for his book "Florist Crop Production and Marketing." This book was declared to be both significant and substantial, an outstanding contribution to the literature of floriculture. It is seldom that a Horticultural Society award goes to a newspaper writer, but Haydn S. Pearson's editorials pertaining to nature study and the relationship between modern civilization and the woods and fields won him a handsome Scroll. Mr. Pearson's editorial appeared in the Boston *Herald,* but did not embrace all his writings, for he was the author of several books.

Seth L. Kelsey had become Chairman of the Garden Committee in 1949, succeeding Dr. George Clark. It then became possible to award the H. H. Hunnewell Medal to Dr. Clark, something which the Board had wished to do for several years. "Chaily" in Newburyport was described as a country estate of unusual interest, where horticultural skill had been combined with exceptionally good taste in the development of a fine location overlooking the Merrimack River. Native trees, rare and beautiful evergreens, shrubs, flowering plants and ground covers were features of the landscape.

The Committee went to the western part of the state to make several of its awards, giving a gold medal to Mrs. George O. Forbes of South Egrement for "Orchard Farm," an "unusually lovely small estate where house and garden blend to form a pattern for

gracious living." A Gold Medal was awarded also to Mrs. Charles Griswold in Stockbridge for a "hillside estate of exceptional merit." Especially commended was the restrained planting in areas where emphasis on form or color would have detracted from a magnificent view of the valley below.

Mrs. Bernard Hoffman of Stockbridge, who had long been active in support of the Berkshire Garden Center, was given the Society's Silver Medal for a "small garden combining variety of interest with ease of maintenance."

In keeping with a practice followed by some previous committees, awards were made to two industrial establishments. A Garden Certificate was voted to the Heald Company of Worcester for a "dignified and practical foundation planting that might well serve as a model for other commercial enterprises." Another certificate was awarded the Norton Company of Worcester for the planting of an inner courtyard. A pool and flower beds added to the effect.

A successful series of lectures in the Spring was followed by another in the Fall and Winter. One by Jesse Buffum on the Fiji Islands attracted so many people that it had to be immediately repeated. Even then several hundred persons were turned away. Another lecture, one by Milford Wall in which he showed marvelous pictures of the Canadian Rocky Mountains, drew an overflow attendance. It was interesting to find the evening lectures filling the hall, whereas in earlier years only lectures given in the afternoon were well attended. Doubtless the improved transportation facilities resulting from the new subway explained, at least in part, this changed situation. Horticultural Hall had become one of the most accessible public buildings in the city.

In the course of the year the Michigan Horticultural Society, an active and growing organization, made an arrangement by which all its members began to receive each issue of *Horticulture*.

The year ended with a favorable balance of $7,239.98 on the Treasurer's books. The income from investments had increased by $4,000 under the watchful eyes of the able finance Committee. Membership fees brought in one thousand dollars more than in the previous year. Rentals had taken a surprising jump and

Horticulture showed a profit of $1,056. There was a surplus of $27,438.24 from the profits of previous years. The Trustees were well satisfied with the results, even though there had been a drop in the Spring Show receipts.

1950—TWELVE MONTHS OF RECORD-BREAKING PROSPERITY

THIS was to be the most prosperous year since the beginning of the present 25-year period. It was to be a year of expansion, with a membership well over the 13,000 mark. It was to be the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of Horticultural Hall. Unfortunately, it also was to be a year in which the Society was to suffer heavy losses by death.

Following the Camellia show in January, at which Mr. and Mrs. Dana Osgood of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, received the prize for the best bloom in the hall, *Camellia Ville de Nantes,* the energies of the staff were bent toward the Spring Exhibition. With all the conditions favorable, it was planned to make this the superlatively beautiful show, which it proved to be.

The general theme of the Exhibition was "Old New England," with which all the exhibits in Grand Hall were correlated. An old mill was placed realistically on the left of the stage by Sherman Eddy in a scene that blended into a setting on the opposite side, where an old forge, sponsored by Woodbury Bartlett of Hamilton, was the center of interest.

Visitors who entered the building through Exhibition Hall passed under a magnificent acacia display from the greenhouses of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone. The Women's Exhibition Committee staged a series of "Rainbow Gardens," very colorful, as the name suggested. The Federation of Garden Clubs tied its exhibits into the general theme of the Show, thus providing an ideal setting for flower arrangements that were even more artistic and colorful than usual.

Year by year the number of special prizes offered had been growing until, on this occasion, a small army of judges was required. The President's Cup was won by the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, with the George Holliday Memorial Prize

going to John Sullivan for his skill as a gardener in growing the outstanding amaryllis plants which made up the Museum group. The Chestnut Hill Garden Club won the Beacon Hill Garden Club's Cup as the most charming garden club exhibit. The Cup offered by Mrs. John S. Ames went to the North Shore Garden Club for the horticultural excellence of a blue and white garden.

Orchids were much in evidence at this show. Perhaps, indeed, they had never been shown to greater advantage. The American Orchid Society's own award was given to Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Webster as having the most meritorious exhibit. The Antoine Leuthy Gold Medal was won by Fred Walters of Chestnut Hill for a group of odontoglossums, while the new T. A. Weston Memorial trophy went to Orchidvale, Beverly Farms, for a large group of orchids. Both the Women's Exhibition Committee with Miss Mary May Binney as Chairman, and the Garden Club Federation under Mrs. Chester Cook and Samuel B. Kirkwood, were awarded Gold Medals. The profit of the Show was less than in the previous year, but it amounted to the very satisfactory sum of $60,607.96.

Just a few days before the annual meeting on May 1 word was received of the death of Professor Oakes Ames, long a Trustee and for twelve years Vice President. He had been made an Honorary Trustee in 1941. Before his retirement Professor Ames was supervisor of the Arnold Arboretum and Director of the Harvard Botanical Museum. In 1941 he had presented to Harvard his orchid Herbarium consisting of 64,000 specimens, probably the largest in the world. Earlier he had grown orchids extensively at his home in North Easton. He was the author of many books and papers, and during his long career described more than 1,000 new orchid species. He had, of course, received many honors. Among them was the George Robert White Medal of Honor and the Gold Medal of the American Orchid Society.

At the annual meeting President Ames said that more than a thousand new names had been added to the membership roles, giving a total of 13,290. It was again possible to report the largest number of members in the Society's history, as had been progressively true for several years. This growth had necessarily increased the amount of work to be done and additions to the

Terrace of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Febiger of Manchester, Awarded the Albert C. Burrage Porch Fund Medal. In 1953.

Stedman Buttrick, Elected Treasurer in 1948

staff had been required, giving the Society more employes than it ever had had in the past. The President was pleased to state that the Society's magazine had been selected for permanent recording by University Microfilms of the college at Ann Arbor, Michigan. Also, it had been awarded a Silver Medal by the National Garden Institute for conspicuous service to gardening in America.

In his report as Executive Secretary Mr. Nehrling spoke of several improvements, the most important being the installation of Edison steam heat, which resulted in a cleaner building and one much easier to keep properly heated. It also made possible the use of the largest of the halls for sales in the Winter months.

Mr. Nehrling reported the death of Ellis Joy, who had served as head janitor for twenty-seven years. Mr. Joy's long term of service had made friends for him among hundreds of exhibitors as well as persons renting the halls. He was to be missed particularly by the garden club members, as he seemed to know almost in advance what their needs would be. Hooper Jackson succeeded him.

The report of Dr. Merrill as Chairman of the Library Committee showed an increase of 552 volumes, giving the Library a total of 30,069 volumes, making it the largest Library of the kind in the country. A particularly interesting accession had been a collection of books from the Library of Mrs. Francis King of Alma, Michigan, who had passed away. These books were placed on exhibition in the Library, where they received much attention. Mrs. King had received the George Robert White Medal of Honor in 1921, being very active as a gardener and writer. Gifts also included a collection of books from the Library of Robert T. Jackson, whose death has been noted, and 120 watercolors of English wild flowers from the New England Unit of the Herb Society of America. These watercolors, by Ellen Key, were given in memory of Helen Noyes Webster.

Ernest Borowski, a long-time exhibitor and judge, was added to the Board of Trustees at the 1950 annual meeting.

The annual meeting was not long over when, on May 10, the members of the Society were saddened by the death of Edwin S. Webster, at his home in Chestnut Hill. Mr. Webster, who had become a Trustee in 1917, had been elected Vice President in

1925 and became President on the death of Albert C. Burrage in June of 1931. He was to hold that position for thirteen years, a longer period than had been vouchsafed any of his predecessors. Mr. Webster contributed much to the Society and took satisfaction in watching its rapid growth and expansion. He gave warm support to the activities of the American Orchid Society and to other organizations promoting horticultural advancement in America. His interest in roses led to the development of a rose garden in Quisset to be numbered among the best in New England. Mr. Webster's greenhouses were filled with rare orchids and other choice plants which he delighted to exhibit at Horticultural Hall as well as at the Spring Shows for the enjoyment and benefit of the public. He and Mrs. Webster often opened their lovely garden for charity. Mr. Webster's interest in these and other horticultural activities continued to the very end of a life which had rounded out eighty-two very full and active years.

In July came the death of James Geehan, who had served as advertising manager for *Horticulture* through seventeen difficult years, which had included a depression and a war. Mr. Geehan had been well known in the trade before becoming associated with the Horticultural Society and had a host of friends throughout the country. He made many valuable connections for the magazine. William R. Littlefield, a graduate of Boston University with advertising experience, was chosen to succeed Mr. Geehan.

Still another change came late in the year when William H. Clark announced his resignation as Editor of *Horticulture* to take effect on January 1, 1951. Mr. Clark, who had served as Editor since 1947, had decided to move to Vermont and devote himself to the writing of books, in which field he already had won success. Daniel J. Foley of Salem was selected from several candidates to occupy the editorial chair as well as to maintain contact with the newspapers. He was a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, where he majored in horticulture, and where he received the first Margaret F. Motley scholarship established by the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts. After graduation Mr. Foley became associated with the J. Horace McFarland Company in Harrisburg, Pa., where he planned and edited certain of the

catalogues for which this firm was noted. He had four books to his credit.

The second Garden Week came in late May, when fifty-two of the most beautiful gardens and houses in eastern Massachusetts were visited by persons from at least thirty-four states. The Noanett, Milton, Chestnut Hill, North Shore, Boxford and Newburyport Garden Clubs served lunches and teas and conducted sales in certain of the gardens. These clubs received substantial profits from their special activities but all admission fees accrued to the Society. As it happened the Boston Jubilee overlapped Garden Week, but the committee arranged with the Beacon Hill Garden Club to open some of its gardens and houses. The Society received half of the profits.

William T. Aldrich designed a charming Garden Week poster, which was displayed in many store windows, while an illustrated lecture about the event was given in several states. Mrs. John S. Ames gave a luncheon for the press and radio. Novel and effective publicity was obtained at Filene's store, where the glass was removed from one of the show windows, permitting the public to walk through an enchanting garden arranged by the Bay State Nurseries without charge. Some 10,000 persons dropped coins into a fountain, the money obtained in this way being used to purchase flowers for patients in local hospitals through the Benevolent Fraternity Fruit and Flower Mission. In appreciation the Society presented three-year-old albizzia trees from the Arnold Arboretum to those persons who opened their gardens.

Because of her work in directing this great undertaking Miss Mary May Binney was voted the Society's Gold Medal. Garden Week made a profit for the Society of $1,142.89 and attracted much attention. However, it was the decision of the Trustees that it should not be continued another year because of the great amount of additional time and effort demanded of the staff at Horticultural Hall and the disinclination of estate owners to continue opening their grounds.

The George Robert White Medal of Honor was awarded in 1950 to William Hertrich of San Marino, California, in recognition of his unusual ability as a landscape architect and his devotion to the

development of the San Marino Ranch into the amazingly beautiful Huntington Botanical Gardens.[1]

Jan de Graaff of Gresham, Oregon, was awarded the Thomas Roland Medal. Mr. de Graaff's horticultural background could be traced to 1611, when one of his forebears had been recorded as a nurseryman of note. Jan de Graaff, the Committee on Special Medals declared, was considered America's most distinguished authority and hybridizer in the growing of daffodils. In addition, the Committee added, his work with lilies was exciting the commercial and amateur horticultural world.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal went very appropriately to Dr. Samuel L. Emsweller, principal horticulturist in the Bureau of Plant Industry at Beltsville, Maryland. Dr. Emsweller had achieved renown in many fields of commercial horticulture.

An amateur, Thomas C. Desmond of Newburgh, N. Y., was commended in the form of a Gold Medal for assembling an extensive collection of native American trees and shrubs on his estate and by adding exotic woody plants to create an arboretum of interest and importance.

A Gold Medal was awarded R. G. Chamberlain, superintendent for John S. Ames on his estate at North Easton. Mr. Chamberlain had shown unusual ability and skill in growing azaleas and other rhododendrons both in the garden and in the greenhouse over a term of years.

No estate worthy the H. H. Hunnewell Medal was found in 1950 and the Committee worked for the most part on the South Shore and Cape Cod. Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey G. Whitney were awarded a Gold Medal for their sea-side estate at Woods Hole with a citation which stated that it had "unusual charm combining excellent architectural detail with exceptional plant material."

A Gold Medal was received by Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Kirkman for a hill-top estate in Cotuit, where trees and spacious lawns created an atmosphere of restful quiet.

A small garden in West Dennis won a Silver Medal for Mr. and

[1] The medal was presented to Mr. Hertrich by Alfred Hottes, representing the Horticultural Society, at a luncheon sponsored by the Trustees of the Huntington Library in April of 1951.

Mrs. A. L. Gifford. It was described as having simplicity and good taste which had created an overall effect of exquisite charm.

An attractive garden in Hingham won a Silver Medal for Mr. and Mrs. Harold S. Ross. On a steep hillside, in a limited area, were found plants of wide variety reflecting the horticultural interest and energy of the owners. Everywhere a high degree of cultural excellence was noted, especially in the test gardens for roses, tulips, daffodils and other special groups.

Dr. and Mrs. Edwin Cohn were given a Bronze Medal for a garden in Cohasset, where full advantage had been taken of glimpses of the ocean framed by rugged native junipers.

At the end of the year Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone were awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for the most outstanding exhibit at any of the shows, the group of acacias at the Spring exhibition, which has been mentioned.

The financial aspects of the Society's operations for the year 1950 were exceptionally gratifying. The income exceeded expenditures by $20,306.03. This improvement of about $13,000 as compared to 1949 could be traced to a greater yield from investments, an enlarged membership and a most successful Spring Show. It is true that the running expenses had been increased by some $10,000 and that *Horticulture* had to report a considerable deficit. Nevertheless, it was possible to show the sum of $43,177.50 in the Treasurer's earned surplus account (money that had been accumulated from earnings)—the largest at any one time.

1951—FINANCIAL LOSSES AND YET A GOOD YEAR

VICISSITUDES such as beset individuals may also be experienced by institutions. Thus the year in which the Society had known its greatest financial prosperity was to be followed by one in which there was no profit but a loss instead. This, however, was to result from a chain of circumstances which in no way set a pattern, and the year was to be a reasonably good one in many ways. Following the small but always pleasing camellia show in January, the great Spring Exhibition opened in Mechanics Hall on May 7, with special emphasis on orchids. This was because the annual meeting of the American Orchid Society was to be held in Boston the week of the Show. Through close cooperation the two Societies were able to give the public what was probably the largest display of orchids ever seen in America. L. Sherman Adams and George Butterworth, representing the American Orchid Society, earned much of the credit for assembling and grouping the plants, but they had the active assistance of many other growers.

Splendid as they were, however, the orchids comprised only one feature of a very beautiful and skillfully arranged exhibition. Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames laid out a formal azalea garden of such excellence that it won both the Society's Gold Medal and the Gold Medal Certificate of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society for them. At the end of the year they were to be awarded the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for the most outstanding exhibit at any of the 1951 Shows. Jackson & Perkins came on from Newark, N. Y. with two rose gardens and received the President's Cup. A colorful Spring garden won the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York for Breck's of Boston.

The Women's Exhibition Committee won the Sarah Todd Bulkley Medal of the Garden Club of America with a group of

backyard gardens. The cup offered by Mrs. John S. Ames went to the Cambridge Plant Club for an exhibit which "displayed the greatest horticultural excellence in the Show." There was a long list of special orchid prizes, a list too long to be included here. It will be found in the 1952 Year Book. The paid attendance at this show was 109,890, about 10,000 fewer than in the previous year, probably because of one stormy day.

At the annual meeting on May 7, held as usual in connection with the Daffodil Show, Eugene Boerner, representing Jackson & Perkins, was presented the President's Cup by Mr. Ames himself. At this meeting George Lewis, Jr. was elected a Vice President, succeeding Aubrey B. Butler, who continued as a Trustee, and Albert C. Burrage was made a member of the Board.

President Ames presided at the meeting and the usual reports were presented. Mr. Nehrling mentioned various meetings which had been attended by members of the staff. Mr. Littlefield, the new advertising manager of *Horticulture,* had been present at the meeting of the Eastern Nurserymen's Association in New York and that of the American Seedsmen in Chicago. Mr. Nehrling himself had attended the fiftieth anniversary meeting of the American Nurserymen's Association in Washington and the Detroit Flower Show.

Miss Manks, the Librarian, had put her book list, "400 Books for American Gardeners" into pamphlet form. The Society had also published a circular, "Box Method of Obtaining Humus," by Stephen Fairbanks for distribution at the Spring Show and later. A third publication was a booklet by Albert C. Burrage with the title "A Week-end Vegetable Garden," outlining the very successful methods used on his place in Ipswich.

The Executive Secretary also spoke of various exhibits in the Library, among them an unusual display of lichens collected and mounted by Vernon Prior. Some of the specimens looked like precious stones and fascinated visitors to the Hall. Another exhibit showing herbs and their uses also attracted attention. It was set up by Mrs. Frances Williams, a prominent member of the Herb Society of America.

To illustrate the activities at Horticultural Hall Mr. Nehrling gave the schedule of one typical day, as follows:

10 A.M.—Garden Club Service meeting in the small exhibition hall.

2 P.M.—Garden Club Flower Arrangement Section in the same hall.

2 P.M.—Flower Arrangement Class conducted by Mrs. Teele in the lower hall.

2.30 P.M.—New England Wild Flower Preservation Society, Directors' meeting in the Trustees' Room.

8 P.M.—Gardeners' and Florists' Club of Boston, Executive Committee meeting, in the room on the mezzanine floor.

In his report as Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions, Dr. Merrill explained a number of matters having to do with the Spring Show, then two months over. Because the amount of space usually assigned to regular exhibitors had to be reduced due to the great influx of orchids additional space had to be developed. This was accomplished by opening up the basement. The additional expenditure incurred by this action, combined with the other expenses incidental to the enlarged exhibition, raised the cost considerably above the original budget. Nevertheless, there was a profit of $30,000 in spite of an attendance kept down somewhat by poor weather.

Reporting again, this time as Chairman of the Library Committee, Dr. Merrill stated that 351 books, supplemented by 145 bound volumes of periodicals, had been placed on the shelves in the course of the year, an average year's acquisition. During the year 5,647 volumes were loaned—the largest number for one year in the history of the Society. Packages numbering 1,763 were sent to addresses in thirty-seven states. In almost every instance the borrowers reimbursed the Society for the shipping charges. Dr. Merrill said a new estimate of $150,000 as the value of the Library had been made for insurance purposes. He considered this estimate very conservative.

In early October the Board of Associates of the Garden Club of America held its annual meeting in Boston. The Society had the privilege of entertaining this group at tea in the Trustees' Room. The members came from all over the United States and many of them had never before visited Horticultural Hall.

Much of what happened within the Society in 1951 had to do with the magazine *Horticulture*. The continued increase in the cost of paper and most of the other items required in the printing and distribution of a national publication made an increase in the subscription rates, as well as the advertising rates, imperative. At least that was the considered opinion of the Publication Committee, of which Dr. R. A. van Meter was Chairman, and it was in line with the action of other magazines. Therefore it was decided to raise the subscription price from $2.00 to $2.50, beginning with January 1952. This advance would require, of course, a larger payment from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the Horticultural Society of New York and the Michigan Horticultural Society, all of which had a working arrangement with the Massachusetts Society, whereby they obtained *Horticulture* for all their members at a discount.

After prolonged negotiations it was found impossible to arrive at a rate of increase satisfactory to the Directors of the New York and Pennsylvania Societies, and both these organizations voted to withdraw from the pool. The Michigan Society remained. That decision meant a loss of about 7,000 subscriptions after January 1, 1952. With that fact in mind, the Publication Committee immediately began an intensive circulation campaign and in the course of some months was to succeed in filling the gap and, indeed, going beyond it. It was a somewhat expensive undertaking, however, or so it seemed at the moment. Actually much of the money expended was to come back in circulation returns, but it produced a loss for 1951 of over $15,000.

With conditions shaping themselves in this manner, the Trustees decided in October on another drastic move. They voted to increase the membership dues to four dollars, beginning with January of 1952. This, however, was only the second increase that had been made since the Society was founded in 1829. That there would be a loss in members was realized but there was every reason to believe that it would be temporary. The Trustees were convinced that in any event there would be a net gain in membership revenue. This action meant, of course, that a second campaign would be started, this one for new members. The business office was to be a very busy place for the rest of the year.

In October William Littlefield resigned as advertising manager to accept a position with *Flower Grower* in New York. He was succeeded by Richard Husselbee, a personable young college graduate with sufficient advertising experience to make him qualified for this position, and who immediately began making contacts throughout the country.

The Trustees voted a contribution of $100 to a window box campaign being conducted by civic groups. They also voted to change the terms of the Albert C. Burrage porch prize award by making it apply to a terrace as well as a porch and by eliminating the requirement that construction be of the current year. This was done, of course, with the approval of the Burrage family. It had been difficult to continue the award under the original terms.

The necrology list contained the names of three men to whom the George Robert White medal of honor had been awarded—Dr. Hugh P. Baker, Lambertus C. Bobbink and Professor N. E. Hansen. In the list, too, was the name of a former Trustee, Fred A. Wilson, as well as that of Sidney Hoffman, long a florist active in the Spring Shows, and that of Mrs. Harriet R. Foote, noted rosarian.

The George Robert White Medal of Honor for 1951 was awarded Sir William Wright Smith, Director of the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh Scotland, and a very distinguished gentleman, who had been a visitor and judge at one of the Spring Flower Shows in Boston.

Professor Alex Laurie, head of the Department of Floriculture at Ohio State University, received the Thomas Roland Medal.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal went across the continent to Dr. Walter E. Lammerts in La Canada, California, a man whose work as a plant breeder embraced both fruits and flowers.

The distinguished landscape architect Mrs. Beatrix Farrand of Bar Harbor, Maine, was awarded the Society's Gold Medal in recognition of her work, especially that on college campuses. At the same time the Trustees complimented her for the splendid collection of plants assembled by her in her Reef Point garden at Bar Harbor.

The last of the widely distributed awards was made to Dr. Donald Forsha Jones, head of the Department of Genetics at the

Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station—a Gold Medal for his work in the hybridization of corn.

Oliver Wolcott, Chairman, announced nine awards by the Committee on Gardens, with the approval of the Trustees, as follows:

The Society's Gold Medal to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Danielson of Groton, "where rolling hills amid great trees command from a ridge a wide sweep of hills." This award was for a small formal garden, a retaining wall planted with alpines, a well-designed cutting garden and a swimming pool edged with lawn set in an oval of trees and shrubs. "An example of how nature can be enhanced by horticulture."

The Society's Gold Medal to Mrs. Aldus Higgins of Worcester "where walls and yew hedges enclosing gardens of intimate charm, an upward-stretching vista of turf between herbaceous borders, sloping lawns and fine trees make a beautiful setting in perfect proportion for the handsome Tudor house."

The Society's Silver Medal to Mrs. H. P. Emery, Worcester, "for a place of old-fashioned charm where rambling walks lead along a pond, to a slope of superb laurel, and down the outlet brook, all planted with taste and great horticultural success. Notable are the cutting garden, a sunken garden in part of the foundation of an old barn with a pergola covered with vines, the interesting assortment of ground covers, and above all the evidence of years of love by a born horticulturist."

The Society's Bronze Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Johnson, Andover, "for their attractive place stretching back from the village street to which superb ancient trees, well placed shrubs and the rolling slopes of the lawn give an atmosphere of remoteness and space."

The Albert C. Burrage Porch Fund Medal was awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Harold S. Ross of Hingham, "for an unusual terrace developed in conjunction with an informal group of roses and an old wisteria vine. The design of the terrace is well balanced, pleasing and restful. Unusual skill has been used in locating a pleasant outdoor living room which on one side overlooks a steep hillside containing plants of a wide variety and on the other a small, well-designed formal garden."

The Society's Garden Certificate to Sylvania Electric Products,

Inc., 60 Boston Street, Salem, "for a planting of trees and shrubs at its Loring Avenue plant in Salem that surrounds a factory with greenery and bloom. A proof that efficiency can be joined with beauty."

Before the close of the year the Trustees voted to accept the many trophies and medals which had been won by Peter Fisher, a widely known florist and the man who originated the famous Lawson carnation. Mr. Fisher had passed away and it was the wish of his daughter, Mrs. Ethel Fisher Clapp, that the Society should possess his trophies and medals.

By unanimous vote the employes at Horticultural Hall took advantage of a change in the law in 1951 which made them eligible for social security.

With the income from the Spring Show about $18,000 less than in the previous year, with a *Horticulture* loss of $18,292.46, with the income from investments down about $3,000, with the rentals less by $3,000. and with most expenses up, it was easy to see why this had to be set down as a poor year. However, Mr. Buttrick, the Treasurer, was in no way disturbed. The Society was in a sound financial condition, he said, and he was confident that the succeeding year would show black instead of red figures. His confidence was justified, as will be seen.

1952—A SUCCESSFUL SHOW PROVIDES FOR NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

THE year 1952 opened on a note of economy, in view of the previous year's figures, but then a highly successful Spring Flower Show in March made it possible for the Society to proceed with much needed improvements in the fifty-year-old building. After the installation of Edison steam heat in 1950 the old boilers had been kept in use for the burning of rubbish, great amounts of which collect daily but particularly after exhibitions and rummage sales. The point had been reached, however, where these boilers could not be used for any purpose without expensive repairs. Consequently it was decided to remove them and provide a modern incinerator by which to dispose of accumulating trash.

This was a difficult and dirty undertaking, for the boilers had been set up with the old-fashioned, enduring workmanship which characterizes the whole building. When the work had been finished, however, the Society found itself with another large room, providing greatly improved facilities for the janitors. Certain repairs on the tall chimney were demanded before the incinerator could be installed, but in the end the Society had acquired up-to-date equipment making for both economy and efficiency.

A new composition floor was laid in the Lecture Hall, another needed improvement, as this floor had been in poor condition for many years, partly because of water which had escaped from exhibits during flower shows. The new floor would not suffer from such accidents. The small Exhibition Hall and the lower Lecture Hall were given sound-proof ceilings, thus remedying acoustic faults which had been the subject of much criticism. The monitor section of the roof over the large Exhibition Hall was largely reconstructed and much of the glass replaced, preventing further leaks from that source.

Now for the Show which made this work possible. Springtime in New England was the theme of the Show and Grand Hall at Mechanics Building was transformed into a typical New England scene, with hillside planting, ledge outcroppings and lovely vistas to the sea. Much emphasis was placed on conservation, with the State Department of Conservation cooperating, but there were several nostalgic exhibits such as a Cape Cod cottage with a colorful garden set up by Harold Stevenson for Bay State Nurseries. The Women's Exhibition Committee of the Society laid out a series of small gardens replete with practical suggestions. The basement was opened for exhibits as well as trade space, and the Middlesex County beekeepers presented an extensive and interesting display, using live bees.

Alexander Heimlich won the President's Cup with a North Shore rock garden. Breck's of Boston was awarded the Gold Medal Certificate of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and at the end of the year was to receive the Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for its informal garden, glorious with bulbs, as having been the most outstanding exhibit in any of the shows. The New York Society's Gold Medal went to Harlan P. Kelsey, Inc. and the Bulkley Medal of the Garden Club of America to F. I. Carter and Sons for an exhibit of cacti and succulents.

The George Holiday Memorial Prize was awarded George Hewitt for a group of clivias, while the Antoine Leuthy prize went to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone, one of several prizes awarded their acacia exhibit. Two cups were won by the Junior League Garden Club for a living-terrace exhibit, one from the Beacon Hill Garden Club and one from Mrs. John S. Ames. Mrs. Archibald I. Feinberg of Newton won the John Taylor Arms award for flower arrangements. A Silver Platter offered by the American Orchid Society was awarded Mrs. Edwin S. Webster for a group of orchids.

There was a largely increased attendance at this show—120,894. The actual increase over the previous year was 11,004, but no records were broken. There was one rainy day.

There was a large attendance also at one of the smaller shows, the Rose and Peony Show in June. Being held at the time of the national convention of the Men's Garden Clubs of America, many

of the visitors came up from the Sheraton-Plaza Hotel to inspect the exhibits and look over the building. They seemed much impressed. The Society cooperated with the Men's Garden Club of Boston in making the convention the success it proved to be, with the President, the Secretary and other members on the committee.

The 1952 Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens came closer to perfection perhaps than any other Children's Show ever held by the Society. The young gardeners and exhibitors displayed their skill both in the quality of the products grown and in showmanship. The large exhibit of the school garden on the Cummings estate in Woburn was of such high quality and so well done that the judges awarded it a Gold Medal, the first ever to be awarded at a Children's Show. "This exhibit would hold its own with professional exhibits in any Show," was the comment of Ernest Borowski, one of the judges.

At the annual meeting in May, Mr. Ames, the President, mentioned that the Society would observe its 125th anniversary in two years and briefly reviewed its growth and expansion. In his report as Executive Secretary Mr. Nehrling stated that Mr. Ames had given the Society for its Library nine beautifully illustrated volumes on the fruits of France and a series of works on the cultivated trees and shrubs of France. In addition the Society had received from Jan de Graaff of Gresham, Oregon, a collection of historic manuscripts on lilies.

Mr. Nehrling reported that George Taloumis, associate editor of *Horticulture,* was on a four-months leave of absence. He visited European countries on half pay to inspect nurseries and bulb farms and obtain information on current trends across the water. Miss Brenda Newton had been transferred from the Library to the publication department for the duration of Mr. Taloumis' absence. It was necessary also to report the death in Italy of James Wood, who for many years had done the construction work at the Spring Flower Shows, a very able man.

Mr. Nehrling noted that *Horticulture* would observe its 50th anniversary in 1954, coincidentally with the 125th anniversary of the Society. He reported that Mr. Foley had represented the Society at the first Soil Conditioner Conference in New York and that Miss Manks had visited the Bailey Hortorium at Cornell Uni-

versity and the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Library in Washington to check the catalogue collections in those institutions. He said that those two collections with the one in Horticultural Hall were the most complete in the country.

Mr. Nehrling himself represented the Society at the Thirteenth International Horticultural Congress held in London in September of 1952. Many of the world's research workers were present to give their reports and Mr. Nehrling brought back a complete set of these reports for the Society's Library. He was an advisory member of a committee on a proposed code of nomenclature for cultivated plants, which became one of the most important subdivisions of the Congress.

Mr. Nehrling made special mention of the courses in flower arrangement which continued to be conducted by Mrs. Arthur P. Teele, with no decrease of interest on the part of her pupils after many years of this work. The courses were open to members of the Society without charge, but non-members were asked to pay a small fee. Mrs. James Perkins was added to the Board of Trustees at the 1952 annual meeting.

Late in the year five awards were made by the Committee on Special Medals, with Harold S. Ross as Chairman. The coveted George Robert White Medal of Honor was bestowed on Dr. Albert Francis Blakeslee, Professor of Botany and Director of the Genetics Experiment Station at Smith College, Northampton, Mass. Dr. Blakeslee, long considered one of the nation's leading geneticists, pioneered in the use of colchicine in his work with the familiar Black-eyed Susan and the Datura.

The Jackson Dawson Medal for skill in the science and practice of hybridization and in propagation of hardy plants was awarded to Arie F. den Boer, Superintendent of Water Works Park in Des Moines, Iowa, for his outstanding work with hybrid crabapples.

Dr. Victor A. Tiedjens of Marion, Ohio, formerly Director of the Virginia Truck Experiment Station, was awarded the Thomas Roland Medal for skill in hydroponics. He was a pioneer in growing plants in chemical solutions.

To Fred Edmunds, Curator of the International Rose Test Gar-

den in Portland, Oregon, went the Gold Medal of the Society for his work in behalf of better roses.

Another medal of the Horticultural Society was awarded Mrs. Bessie Raymond Buxton of Peabody. Known throughout this country and Europe for her knowledge of begonias, Mrs. Buxton had recently completed a monumental task in compiling a list of begonia species, with the names of their introducers, a total of 10,000 kinds. This list had been given to the Society. Mrs. Buxton was prominent in other fields, too, having been the first Corresponding Secretary of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts and the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

The Garden Committee under the chairmanship of Oliver Wolcott was very active in 1952, making no less than ten awards, although none of them included the H. H. Hunnewell Medal for an estate of three acres or more. The awards, approved by the Trustees, were as follows:

The Society's Gold Medal to Mrs. George Lewis, Jr., Sherborn—"a place created by her and her late husband (a fine horticulturist and a much-missed vice president of this Society) which has acquired the beauty of age; an entrance court of great distinction, an allée commanding a view up the Charles River, a circular lawn rimmed with trees and shrubs, and a garden that, in the autumn, is a pastel of asters and artemisia."

The Society's Gold Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Tudor, Cambridge "a place whose gardens and summer houses perpetuate the classic Federal Age of New England's architectural flowering."

The Society's Silver Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Burrage, Candlewood Farm, Ipswich—"a terrace and green garden of hedges with vistas over rolling open and into woods, never forgetting the model vegetable garden from which so many have derived instruction and stimulation."

The Society's Silver Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Don S. Greer, Winchester—"the lawns, the alpine wall, the pool and the plantings of shrubs and trees well become the house and give to its owners an outlook of great beauty."

The Society's Silver Medal to Miss Louisa and Mr. Francis W. Hunnewell, Wellesley—"lawns sloping to a field that rolls

between great trees, many well-grown and interesting shrubs, and a most attractive wild garden surrounding a pool."

The Society's Bronze Medal to Reverend and Mrs. Harold G. Arnold, West Roxbury—"superb old trees and a garden of much charm create an oasis of peace not far from an area where the bulldozer has done its worst."

The Society's Bronze Medal to Miss Margaret Cummings, Topsfield—"a house on its elm-shaded terrace with an old-fashioned garden, a guest house also with its garden, and a well-planted wood path to a view of the Ipswich River."

The Society's Garden Certificate to the Misses Aimee and Rosamond Lamb, Milton—"for an old place of great dignity, notable for monumental wisteria and rhododendrons, many of them of great age."

The Society's Garden Certificate to Mr. and Mrs. Ben: P. P. Moseley, Ipswich—"for their extraordinary collection of rhododendron, grown with great skill, which yearly attracts both horticultural experts and amateurs of floral beauty."

The Albert C. Burrage Porch Fund Medal to Mrs. Chester N. Greenough of Belmont "for a skillfully-designed terrace which overlooks a garden planted with flowering shrubs, trees and roses, to provide a vista of year-round beauty."

Spring and Winter lectures covered a wide range with many important speakers. The Winter lectures were correlated under the title "Travel With Us Around the World." "A Botanist in Your Grocery Store" by Dr. Richard A. Howard, head of the department of botany at the University of Connecticut, drew a particularly large audience.[1]

A new small and very practical book, "Your Guide to a Greener Lawn," by Geoffrey S. Cornish, published by the Society, was very well received, the distribution soon going beyond the 10,000 mark.

In the course of the year the Society suffered a severe loss in the death of George Lewis, Jr., a Vice President and Assistant Treasurer, who was killed when thrown from a horse. Mr. Lewis had been an active member of the Board of Trustees, serving on several committees. Other names appearing in the necrology list

[1] The next year Dr. Howard became Director of the Arnold Arboretum.

were those of Robert Pyle, long one of the country's best known rosarians; E. Allan Peirce, a rose grower who had been an exhibitor for many years; Miss Laura G. Hills, distinguished as a painter of floral subjects, and John W. Queen, who had long handled the advertising at the Spring Exhibitions.

In November Mrs. Ida A. Perkins resigned as Executive Secretary of the Benevolent Fraternity Fruit and Flower Mission, the work of which was closely allied with that of the Society. She was succeeded by Mrs. Esther L. Camfield.

Mr. Buttrick's reassuring words at the beginning of the year were shown, when the year was over, to have been entirely justified. The red of 1951 had been replaced by black, even though a fairly large sum had been expended for repairs and renovations and for extending the circulation of *Horticulture*. Expressed in figures, the receipts totalled $175,299.67, with a net income amounting to $4,407.93. The Treasurer was not quite as optimistic in respect to 1953 and his judgment was remarkably keen, as has been and will be seen.

1953—SERIOUS PROBLEMS ARE MET WITH BOLD DECISIONS

MOMENTOUS decisions were to be made in 1953 and under difficult circumstances. However, they did not come until after the Spring Exhibition and as that Exhibition had something to do with them, it will be considered first and after that the annual meeting.

Golden Gardens was the theme of the Spring Show and the golden note was carried out with marked effectiveness, especially in the dramatic manner in which the acacias staged by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone were displayed. Plantings of azaleas and perennials by Weston Nurseries were flanked by two long walls in Grand Hall. The famous Kurume azaleas from the greenhouses of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames were used with skill and taste to complete the focal point on the stage, which was treated as a formal garden. A circular fountain and a background of flowering trees were provided by Bartlett Gardens. "Gardening Around the Year" was the appropriate keynote for a series of little gardens planned by the Women's Exhibitions Committee under the direction of Mrs. John Cunningham.

The President's Cup was awarded to Weston Nurseries for formal borders, which featured trees, shrubs and other plants in Grand Hall as noted above. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone of Marion won the Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York for their part in the stage display in addition to the Antoine Leuthy prize and the Gold Medal of the Society. A garden of roses and clematis set up with the skill always shown by Albert Hulley of Middleboro was awarded the Gold Medal of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, while the Department of Agriculture's trophy went to Johnson Brothers, Inc. of Woburn for a rose exhibit. An interesting and educational pruning exhibit staged by the Arnold Arboretum was awarded the Bulkley Medal of the

Garden Club of America. The attendance at the Spring Show was 121,046, which was 152 more than in 1952. The income from the Show was $55,331.53.

Through the initiative of Mr. Nehrling and the able presentation of the matter by legal counsel sent to Washington, a decision had been obtained which did away with the tax on admissions to the Society's Shows. This added materially to the income from the Shows and freed the Society from much paper work. Following this Society's example, the New York Flower Show obtained a similar exemption. The grounds for this action were found, of course, in the fact that the receipts from the Shows are used for educational purposes.

At the annual meeting in May, held at the time of the Daffodil Show, the President, Mr. Ames, regretfully reported the resignation of two active and valued Trustees, Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby and Ray M. Koon. Said Mr. Ames of Mrs. Crosby, "She has served our Society as a Trustee for a period of thirty-one years. She has given generously of her wise counsel and has manifested unusual interest in all our activities." Of Professor Koon he said, "He has devoted himself faithfully to the many tasks assigned him as a member of the Board."

The President acknowledged the receipt of an excellent portrait of Richard M. Saltonstall, President of the Society from 1916 to 1918. It was copied by H. H. Brooks from an oil painting by Frank Benson hanging in the Saltonstall homestead. With this gift the Society had an unbroken series of portraits of all its Presidents to the time John S. Ames took office, with two exceptions. The portrait of William Gray, Jr. was destroyed by fire in 1888. Francis Parkman is represented by a bust.

Mr. Ames also acknowledged the gift of 120 shares of General Electric Stock from Mrs. Henry D. Tudor, the proceeds to be used for purchasing milk for the children who participate in the school garden program of the city of Boston. Mr. Ames said the Society had received $2,500 from the estate of Stillman Benway, this amount to be added to the Society's general fund.

In his report as Executive Secretary Mr. Nehrling spoke of plans for observing the 125th anniversary of the Society in 1954, along with the 50th birthday of the magazine *Horticulture*. The

Spring Flower Show would be keyed to the anniversary, he said, the Society's history would be brought up to date, there would be an anniversary edition of *Horticulture* and other features of an extensive program would be developed. He felt that more should be known about this Society, the oldest incorporated organization of the kind in the country and by far the largest.

Harold D. Stevenson reported for the Committee on Exhibitions, revealing that there had been a total attendance of 148,786 at the eight shows of the fiscal year, indicating the large number of people being reached by the Society.

An exhibit of apples by Parker Brothers of Fiskdale, Mass. at the Harvest Show brought the fact to mind that the Parkers had been exhibiting in Horticultural Hall since 1929, setting a record for consistent support unequaled by any other exhibitor at this Show.

Dr. Elmer D. Merrill in his final report as Chairman of the Library Committee said he did not want that report to be interpreted as pessimistic, although it might sound so. In truth, it was, in places, even critical, although the Chairman hastened to add that his real purpose was to indicate how and where reductions could be made if at some time it might be necessary to make them. He said that the unit cost of recataloguing had been slightly in excess of one dollar per volume and that the cataloguing of several thousand sets of periodicals had only recently been commenced. He believed that every effort should be made to cut corners, and added, "One suspects that the recataloguing project was rather lightly taken up and approved ten or more years ago without full realization of what was involved, what the total cost might be and how long the task would be continued." He thought too much attention was given the repairing of old volumes but agreed with a decision to eliminate certain unnecessary sets of periodicals, thus adding some additional shelf room. He pointed out, however, that with about 500 books being added each year, the shelf footage released would not last long. The Library had, he said, 31,468 volumes, making it by far the largest Library of the kind maintained by any similar society in the country. Yet he had come to the conclusion that the maintenance cost per volume

was too large, perhaps because an attempt was being made to cover too many fields.[1]

At this annual meeting Dr. Ralph A. Van Meter was elected a Vice President. Harold D. Stevenson, Dr. Donald Wyman and Mrs. Edwin S. Webster were added to the Board of Trustees. Oliver Wolcott was made Assistant Treasurer.

The reorganized Board was immediately called upon to consider the over-all financial situation of the Society and to make some far-reaching decisions. The Spring Show had drawn a very large attendance, but the net proceeds were less than at some previous Shows, as higher rent, higher insurance charges and increased prize money had made the Show cost more. Repairs on the exterior of Horticultural Hall could no longer be safely postponed and the estimated cost ran to about $16,000. Pointing of the bricks on the front and two end walls was required and an examination of the decorative features was imperative. *Horticulture* was certain to have a deficit because of an expansion policy on which the Publication Committee had decided.

The Society's membership dues had been increased to four dollars in 1951 and the number of members had dropped by 1,200. However, the receipts from dues had become greater in spite of this fact. The subscription price of *Horticulture* had been raised in 1951 also, but an extensive circulation campaign had served to maintain the subscription level, although at considerable expense.

After weighing all these facts carefully and at length, the Trustees decided on bold and aggressive action. They voted to again raise the dues, this time to five dollars, the limit under the amended charter, and to make another increase in the price of *Horticulture*—three dollars a year by subscription and thirty-five cents for a single copy. The new rates were to go into effect January 1, 1954. It was believed that the increase from dues would more than compensate for any loss in members which might result from this action even in the first year, and that this revenue would continue to increase as the membership began to climb again. The new dues were the same as those of the Pennsylvania Horti-

[1] Later in the year the new Chairman of the Library Committee, Albert C. Burrage, made a report to the Trustees which was more optimistic.

cultural Society and less than those of the Horticultural Society of New York. What the Society offered in exhibitions, publications, free information and unparalleled library service made a bargain package not likely to be overlooked by garden lovers.

In its plans for the expansion of *Horticulture* the Committee on Publications presented the Trustees a daring, long-range program which envisaged a type of magazine never before known in the horticultural field and one which, it was believed, would have an irresistible appeal. Actually, the magazine appeared in its new form in October and was warmly received. It had eight full pages in color done by a marvelous color process perfected by the W. A. Krueger Company of Milwaukee, which printed the color section. It was already evident by the end of the year that the percentage of renewals had materially increased.

When the Society acquired the magazine in 1924 it was for one purpose—to build up the membership and increase the influence of the Society itself. That was still its mission, and there was no thought of making it a commercial enterprise. Yet the more people it could reach, the greater its opportunities would be to spread the gospel of gardening and to aid the Society in its endeavor to be of greater service. Thus the Trustees made memorable decisions, with the year ahead, the anniversary year, to test their wisdom.

In the Summer Dr. Merrill presented his resignation as a member of the Board because of ill health, and it was accepted with expressions of deep regret. He had served as a Trustee since 1938 and had been active as Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions and Chairman of the Library Committee, much of the time holding these important positions concurrently.

At the close of the year the Trustees announced a series of awards as recommended by various committees. The Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase for the most outstanding exhibit in any of the Society's exhibitions held during the year 1953 was awarded to Mrs. Edwin S. Webster of Chestnut Hill, for an outstanding exhibit of chrysanthemums staged at the 1953 Chrysanthemum Show. Albert C. Burrage was Chairman of the committee recommending this award.

Oliver Wolcott was Chairman of the Committee on Gardens which recommended the following awards:

A Garden Certificate to Andover Inn, Andover, "for lawns and an old-fashioned garden where its guests may find seclusion, and refreshment for the spirit."

A Garden Certificate to The First Church of Christ Scientist, in Boston, "for a garden whose plantings of trees and shrubs, whose borders in constant bloom, and whose well-kept turf contribute beauty to the city at all seasons."

A Garden Certificate to Stowaway Sweets, Marblehead, "for a well-kept garden and plantings that surround the old house containing the candy shop. An instance where commerce has beautified its neighborhood."

A Bronze Medal to Mrs. Grace Burnham, Marblehead, "a garden on ledges overlooking the harbor, showing by its collection of well-grown shrubs, vines, and flowers a lifetime of horticultural skill."

A Bronze Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Salvage, Tedesco Point, Swampscott, "a garden of roses and perennials, a lawn sloping to the sea, an effectively planted ledge and great trees, all with an unusual perfection of maintenance."

A Bronze Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Ward, Marblehead, "whose hard work and love of the earth have made an unpromising site teem with plantings that give privacy of great charm."

A Silver Medal, to Dr. Allen C. Brailey, Newton Highlands. "A steep hillside terraced, where paths of shavings lead down among unusual plantings of wild flowers and restful nooks, testify to the owner's taste and energy and give much pleasure to the guest."

A Silver Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Humphrey, Brookline. "On one side lawns, sloping to a brook and rising beyond to a coppice, and on the other a great ledge, enclose the house with its terrace of flowers and espaliered trees."

A Silver Medal to Mr. and Mrs. Clifford C. Walker, Newton. "Their neighborliness has made of the bordering public sidewalk and their own retaining wall a path of beauty and horticultural education for the passer-by, where birches shade the perfectly kept gravel edged with lawn, and the sloping wall down which alpines tumble amid pockets of flowers."

A Gold Medal to Mrs. Arthur Adams, Dover. "A wild pool with lawns rising to the house and with a circling path through its

wooded background planted with a wide assortment of native flowers and ground covers, an arbor of espaliered fruit trees in a garden that is itself enclosed with fruit espaliered in various forms, and the many flowering trees and shrubs, combine to convey the epitome of spring." [2]

Again the H. H. Hunnewell Medal for an estate of three acres or more was omitted.

Harold S. Ross was Chairman of the Committee on Special Medals, the report of which provided for awards as follows:

The George Robert White Medal of Honor to Edward I. Farrington of Weymouth Heights, "for a lifetime of service as administrator, counselor, editor and author." Mr. Farrington was Secretary of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for twenty-three years. He established *Horticulture* as an amateur publication and was instrumental in organizing the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts. The citation read, "During his long and distinguished period of service in various horticultural endeavors he has made a notable contribution to the advancement of American horticulture."

The Jackson Dawson Medal to Francis Meilland, Cap d'Antibes, France, for the outstanding varieties of roses which he had developed over a period of years, including Peace, which became a top favorite over a large part of the world in less than ten years.

The Thomas Roland Medal to Arnold Davis, Director of the Cleveland (Ohio) Garden Center. Mr. Davis was cited as a distinguished "bellwether" who had developed new interest in and expanded the field of horticulture.

The Society's large Gold Medal to Professor Ray M. Koon, retiring Director of the Waltham Field Station of the University of Massachusetts. Professor Koon was cited as having made an outstanding contribution by building and broadening the service rendered by the Waltham station.

The Society's large Gold Medal to Joseph J. Lane of New York City. "Through his work with the distinguished magazine *House and Garden*," the citation read, "he has rendered invaluable serv-

[2] This was the second time a medal had been awarded for the excellence of the Adams Estate.

ice to maintain high standards in the field of horticultural advertising and has become recognized as a roving ambassador of goodwill throughout America." This probably was the first time that an honor of this kind had been paid a man in the advertising field by any horticultural society.

Among the activities of the year was a television program over WBZ-TV by Miss Brenda Newton. Miss Newton, formerly an assistant to the Librarian, had been transferred to the publication department and made an associate editor of *Horticulture*. George Taloumis, another member of the staff, became a weekly contributor to the *Boston Sunday Globe*.

Mr. Nehrling was called upon to act as chairman of several committees on horticultural awards. He attended the annual convention of the Men's Garden Clubs of America in Memphis, Tenn., at which time he was elected to the Board of Directors. He acted as Chairman of the Committee on Garden Club Publications.

The end of the year brought confirmation of the Treasurer's forecast—there was a deficit in contrast to the profit of the previous year. The 53-year-old building had reached a point at which somewhat costly repairs were needed, although not indicating any structural weakness in this remarkably well-built edifice. The need of inspecting the ornaments at the top of the Hall became apparent when several of them were found to be loose. It is probable that they would have fallen in a short time, perhaps with disastrous consequences. The deficit resulted in part from the campaign inaugurated to expand and improve the magazine *Horticulture,* thus increasing both its value and its circulation.

1954—ANOTHER ANNIVERSARY AND A NOVEL CELEBRATION

INTEREST at the beginning of 1954 centered on the celebration of the Society's 125th anniversary, with a special committee to develop a program to extend throughout the year. Seth L. Kelsey was made Chairman of this committee, the other members being Harold S. Ross, Mrs. William A. Parker, Mrs. John S. Ames, Mrs. Irving C. Wright, Mrs. John Cunningham, Mrs. Roger S. Warner, Ernest Borowski, Aubrey B. Butler, Dr. Donald Wyman and George Taloumis. The cooperation of the Exhibition Committee was immediately sought, with the result that the Spring Show had the anniversary as its theme. Harold Stevenson, landscape architect and a member of the Board of Trustees, was given the task of making an overall plan for Grand Hall and achieved a masterpiece.

A replica of the Society's first Horticultural Hall occupied the stage. It was flanked on one side by a bandstand where a brass band played a series of concerts throughout the week. Opposite, a gay flower market filled with superb blooms added a dashing note of color. In the center of the grass plot, the seal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society was sculptured using 16,000 carpet bedding plants.

Seth L. Kelsey of the Kelsey-Highlands Nursery, Henry Buell of the Boston Park Department, together with Mr. and Mrs. Max Fishelson executed this section.

The center of the hall was occupied by an extensive formal garden bordered with boxwood. Herbs were used effectively around the well-head in the center, and bright pink geraniums provided an abundance of color. This garden was the work of Woodbury Bartlett of the Bartlett Gardens, Hamilton.

Flanking the left wall was a brick facade of a Boston mer-

chant's home complete with a dooryard garden filled with hardy perennials, staged by Weston Nurseries of Weston.

Along the opposite wall, a garrison-type, colonial house and carriage shed surrounded by a planting of annuals, perennials and madonna lilies together with many pungent herbs was done by John Russell of Dedham for Breck's of Boston.

To complete the picture, Mr. Stevenson developed a replica of the Boston waterfront of a century and a quarter ago, a unique and highly interesting exhibit.

Mr. Stevenson's efforts won him a special Gold Medal award from the magazine *Horticulture*. This was called a 50th Anniversary Medal, its significance lying in the fact that the magazine was also observing an anniversary, having reached its 50th birthday. Mr. Stevenson also received a Gold Medal from the Society.

The Grand Hall display was, of course, only one feature of the Show, all the other halls and the basement being filled with exhibits. The Women's Exhibition Committee set up a series of delightful little gardens. Many visitors stopped Mr. Nehrling to say that they considered this the most pleasing Show that they remembered. Indeed, the consensus of opinion seemed to be that it ranked with the best in the Society's history.

An unusual award at the Show was made when the Garden Club of America decided to give its Sarah Todd Bulkley Medal to the Society itself for its unique and convincing exhibit in Grand Hall. Previously this Medal had gone only to individuals. The new Beatrix Farrand Silver Bowl was awarded Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames for an azalea garden which for design and quality of material has seldom if ever been equalled. The Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York also went to Mr. and Mrs. Ames.

Alexander Heimlich again set up one of the splendid rock gardens for which he is noted and won the President's Cup. Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Stone of Marion were awarded the Gold Medal of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society for their glorious acacias. The Antoine Leuthy prize went to the North Shore Horticultural Society for a tropical garden, while the Department of Agriculture's trophy was awarded to Butler & Ullman for a rose garden.

Another very special award was that of the 125th Anniversary Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society to the Women's Exhibition Committee, for their very attractive exhibit in Exhibition Hall. The 1954 Chairman of this very active group was Mrs. Stephen Whealand.

The attendance at this Show was 126,933, a gain of 5,887 over the previous year. There was a profit of $52,158.74.

At the annual meeting the first Monday in May in connection with an excellent Daffodil Show Mr. Ames made a dignified address after which much interesting information was given by the Executive Secretary and various chairmen. Mr. Nehrling said that 2,553 new members had been added to the Society, making a total of over 14,000. He spoke of the enthusiastic letters received from subscribers after the first appearance of *Horticulture* in color, and expressed his belief that the additional cost was justified. He mentioned a new book by Dr. Clement Gray Bowers on "Winter Hardy Rhododendrons" which the Society had just published and which was selling well. Mr. Nehrling revealed that the author had been his student at Cornell. The manuscript for this book was an anniversary gift by the author. It was stated also that 150,000 copies of the Society's book "The Gardener's Almanac" had been distributed, the eleventh edition having recently been published. All the Winter lectures had been well attended, Mr. Nehrling said, but there had been more than usual interest in the one by Lady Inchiquin of County Clare on "Irish Homes and Gardens."

In his report as Chairman of the Library Committee Mr. Burrage disclosed that the recataloguing of the library had been completed. This fact was a cause of gratification, for the task had been a long and expensive one, having been begun in 1939. The cost was $38,702.[1]

Mr. Burrage reported that 6,100 books were borrowed in 1953, a larger number than ever before, and yet not a great number when compared with the Society's membership of over 14,000. An analysis showed that three-fourths of this number went to hobby gardeners, with the remaining fourth borrowed by professionals. It

[1] As a matter of precaution the catalogue cards have been copied on microfilm and these greatly reduced copies stored in a bank vault.

was stated that the Albert C. Burrage collection of rare old books and prints, received from the father of the present Chairman, was being catalogued and made available. A rearrangement of the Trustees' room provided an excellent location for this collection.

In this room a case will be found which contains almost all the 192 volumes listed in the Society's first catalogue, issued in 1831. They are in excellent physical condition.

Henry G. Wendler read a stimulating report in behalf of the Committee on the Exhibition of the Products of Children's Gardens. He called the 1953 Show one that came close to perfection, and this in spite of a cold season. An exhibit labeled "Corn is King" was remarkable for its educational value and received the Society's Bronze Medal as well as a first prize. Altogether the Boston School Department had 165 prize-winning entries. The 4-H Club exhibits in the Lecture Hall were equally commendable. In these times, when much is written about juvenile problems, such a report was felt to be highly reassuring.

Ernest B. Dane was added to the Board of Trustees at this annual meeting. Mr. Dane's father was a Trustee at one time and it was he who developed the important orchid collection which his son now owns. Later in the year Edmund Mezitt resigned from the Committee on Prizes for business reasons and was succeeded by Milford Lawrence of Falmouth.

The special committee's anniversary program included awards outside the Society and in various parts of the state. Early in the year a Certificate was voted to the Connecticut Horticultural Society for a beautiful display at the Western Massachusetts Spring Flower Show in Springfield. A Gold Medal was awarded the Hixon Greenhouses for a Spring garden at the Worcester Spring Flower Show.

An Anniversary Certificate was awarded Mrs. W. H. Moore for the most beautiful exhibit at the Summer Show of the North Shore Horticultural Society. Frank Mailland is her gardener. Such an award was also made to Alexander Heimlich for an exhibit with a waterfall at the Topsfield fair.

Notice was received from the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture that it had established quarters in the building of the Wenham Historical Society and could again take over the

custody of certain books which had been stored in Horticultural Hall in Boston. This Society is slightly older than the Horticultural Society and many prominent men have been included in its membership.

The Royal Horticultural Society having become 150 years of age in 1954, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society sent the following salutation, handsomely engraved on special paper:

> The Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, on this its 125th anniversary, acting for its 14,000 members, send greetings and congratulations to the Royal Horticultural Society on the occasion of its sesquicentenary celebration. We recognize the preeminence of your Society and pay tribute to its accomplishments. May it ever prosper and extend its influence for the advancement of horticulture at home and abroad.

It was possible for this salutation to be presented personally to the President of the Royal Horticultural Society, as Mr. and Mrs. Ames were in London at the time of the celebration on a visit to their son, attached to the American embassy. They attended many of the events held in connection with the celebration and were warmly received. Mr. Ames was selected for special mention at the banquet.

The death of Ray M. Koon in June was a tragic event. He had retired as head of the Waltham Field Station on May 1 and with his wife had gone to Nova Scotia to establish a new home, thus fullfilling a long-time dream. Serious illness brought him back to Boston and he passed away in the Massachusetts General Hospital at the age of sixty-five. Professor Koon had been an active member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for many years, serving as Chairman of the Committee on Exhibitions through an extended term. He resigned from the Board of Trustees in 1953 and in that year was awarded the Society's Gold Medal.

A ten-page list of 16mm motion pictures for garden club programs prepared by Dorothy S. Manks and Katherine V. Parker was widely distributed and proved very useful.

A rearrangement of the editorial and advertising offices in Horticultural Hall was carried out in the course of the year. This

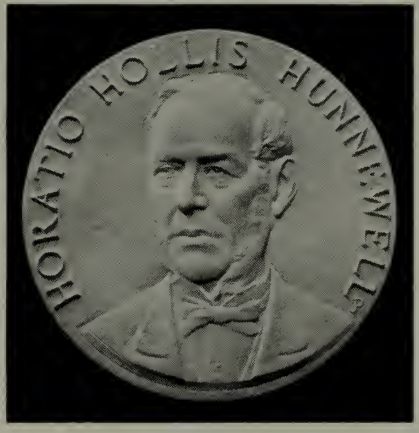
The Society's Medal, which is reproduced in Gold, Silver and Bronze.

The Thomas Roland Medal, Awarded for Skill in Horticulture.

The Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal, with the Late Mr. Dawson's Portrait.

The George Robert White Medal of Honor.

Reverse of the George Robert White Medal of Honor.



The Horatio Hollis Hunnewell Medal, bearing the portrait of the Late Mr. Hunnewell.

made it possible to assign an individual office to each editor and the advertising manager as well as the bookkeeper, a measure making for much greater efficiency.

On August 31 New England was hit by a disastrous hurricane, with another a week later. Hundreds of members of the Society met with serious losses, as most of the ripening apples and pears were blown from the trees and great numbers of ornamental trees and shrubs were destroyed. Much damage was done to greenhouses and to outdoor crops. Some of the copper covering on the roof of Horticultural Hall was lifted by the wind and extensive repairs were required. Fortunately there was insurance to cover much of this damage.

Mr. Nehrling was Chairman of the committee which arranged the program of a Congress conducted by the American Horticultural Council at the Hotel Somerset in Boston beginning October 27 and lasting four days. George Taloumis, one of his assistants, gave an illustrated lecture at the annual dinner, at which John C. Wister was toastmaster. On the second day the delegates visited the Loan Art Exhibition at Horticultural Hall as guests of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

The attendance at this Congress exceeded that at any similar event. There were several unusual features, including a New England boiled dinner, which greatly pleased guests from other states. Mr. Nehrling was presented a bronze plaque by the associated Bulb Growers of Holland, while the Horticultural Society was given a scroll by the American Horticultural Council. The scroll was accepted by Mr. Ames as President of the Society. The officers remained as before, with Mr. Nehrling continuing as second Vice President and a member of the Board of Directors.

The Society's magazine *Horticulture* had an anniversary of its own in 1954, having attained the ripe age (at least, for a magazine) of fifty years. This was indeed an event of importance, considering that not a single amateur, all-garden magazine which was in existence at the time of *Horticulture's* natal day is now being published. To properly observe this event the editors prepared an elaborate anniversary edition, which was issued in October. It contained many important and interesting historical articles and a wealth of illustrations, many of them handdrawn. The cover

was reproduced from a painting of the first Flower Show conducted by the Society 125 years ago.

At a luncheon on the second day of the Congress mentioned above Horticulture's Golden Anniversary Scrolls were presented to four veteran editors, James H. Burdett, Fred F. Rockwell, E .L. D. Seymour and Edward I. Farrington. Richardson Wright was to be included but unfortunately could not be present. The presentation address was made by Daniel J. Foley, Editor of Horticulture.

The magazine had increased its circulation to 50,000 as the year neared its close. One thousand new subscribers were obtained at the Spring Flower Show in New York and an attractive booth set up at many fairs throughout the country during the Summer and Autumn months introduced the magazine to thousands of persons attracted by the remarkable color plates appearing in each issue. Mr. Husselbee went as far West as the Pacific Coast, making advertising and circulation contacts. Later Mr. Foley went to the West Coast and into Canada to arrange for contributions from those sections. In the course of the Summer Mr. Nehrling made arrangements with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society to resume the plan of sending *Horticulture* to all the members of that organization at a satisfactory price. Thus close ties were renewed with the progressive and expanding Pennsylvania Society.

The closing event of the Society's 125th anniversary celebration was unusual and distinctive. It took the form of a great loan exhibition of paintings and other works of art to indicate the influence of horticulture in this field. "Flowers in Art and Decoration," to use the formal description of the exhibition, required the use of all the halls in the building, with great numbers of valuable articles from private homes, museums and other sources. Fresh flowers were used in profusion for special decorations and the exhibition was open ten days. An invitation luncheon was served at the Harvard Club on the opening day, October 24, after which there was a private inspection of the exhibits, the doors being opened to the public at 6 P.M. It is believed that an exhibition of this kind on a large scale had never before been undertaken.

The total attendance was 12,752. Each member of the Society was admitted once without charge. The general admission was

$1.50. The receipts were not sufficient to entirely cover the expense, but many of the visitors remained to become members. The Exhibition added greatly to the prestige of the Society and received the highest commendation from art critics, newspapers and radio editors.

Notice was received that Mr. Nehrling had been awarded the Tessie K. Scharps Memorial Life Membership in the Horticultural Society of New York. This was "in recognition of his outstanding contributions to horticulture throughout his lifetime of service." Announcement was also made that Mr. Nehrling had been selected to lead a garden tour through the islands of Hawaii in June of 1955, the tour being sponsored by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and endorsed by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

So, as this twenty-five years of history began with an anniversary and a celebration, it comes to a close in the same manner. Who can doubt that the Society will go on having anniversaries and celebrations until that unhappy day when gardening shall become outmoded and science alone shall rule the lives of men.

MEDALS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Society's Large Gold Medal—This Medal was designed by Francis N. Mitchell, apparently in 1847, as the records show that a bill was rendered as of January 14, 1848, in the amount of $250. A replica in bronze was given to each member of the Committee on Medals, consisting of Messrs. Newhall, Stickney, Teshemacher, Hovey, Walker, and the president, Marshall P. Wilder. At present, the large Gold Medal costs about $86.40.

The Society's Exhibition Medal—This Medal is a reproduction of the large Gold Medal on a smaller scale. It was authorized at a meeting of the Executive Committee in 1923, at which time the secretary was instructed to obtain dies for this Medal. The dies were made at a cost of $325 by the Medallic Art Company, New York City. The small Gold Medal costs about $51.70 at the present time.

The Society's Silver Medal—This Medal is a replica in silver of the Society's large Gold Medal.

The Society's Bronze Medal—This is a bronze replica of the Society's large Gold Medal.

The George Robert White Medal of Honor—This Medal is considered the most important horticultural award in America. It was made possible through a gift of $7,500 by the late George Robert White and a subsequent gift of $2,500 by his sister, Mrs. Harriet J. Bradbury. The Medal was designed by John Flanagan and made by the Medallic Art Company. A new die is made each year with the name of the recipient molded into it. This Medal costs, at the present time, about $554. It is awarded by the Board of Trustees of the Society to "the man or woman, commercial firm or institution, in the United States, or of some other country that has done the most in recent years to advance the interest in horticulture in its broadest sense."

Appleton Medal—This is one of the Society's earliest Medals, but its use was discontinued by vote of the Trustees in 1924. It carries the likeness of Samuel Appleton and was designed by Francis N. Mitchell, whose bill, dated August 5, 1848, was for $125.

Centennial Medal—This was a special Medal of which only 100 were awarded. It was given out only at the time of the Centennial Year of the Society in 1929. This Medal was designed by John Paramino, who used the Society's seal as a basis and surrounded it with a border, afterwards adding a base. Mr. Paramino was paid $300 and the dies were made by Whitehead & Hogue for $244.

Jackson Dawson Memorial Medal—This Medal was made possible through a fund raised by the Horticultural Club of Boston, of which Mr. Dawson was long a member. It bears Mr. Dawson's portrait and was made by the Robbins Company of Attleboro at a cost of $250. The first Medal was struck in 1927. The present cost of this Medal is about $113. This Medal is made from the income of a fund now totaling $3,227. This fund may be used for prizes, lectures and medals, or as the Trustees may direct, to encourage the science and practice of hybridization and the propagation of hardy woody plants.

Thomas Roland Medal—This Medal was designed by Mrs. Oakes Ames and made by the Gorham Company in 1927. The first Medal and case cost $177.50 and were presented to Mr. Roland at a meeting of the Trustees on March 29, 1927. Its face bears appropriately the representation of a cypripedium orchid, Mr. Roland having been particularly fond of cypripediums. The cost of this Medal was shared by various friends with a small appropriation from the Society. The present fund is $3,000, the income being used for Medals to be awarded to men and women who have shown exceptional skill in horticulture, and for lectures. The present cost of each Medal is about $119.

Hunnewell Medal—This Medal was designed by John Paramino and bears the head of the late H. Hollis Hunnewell, for many years an officer and benefactor of this Society. The first Medal was given to the Hunnewell family. The original cost of this Medal, including design and dies, was $550. This Medal costs at the present time $100 and it is paid for from a fund of $2,000 established by Mr. Hunnewell in 1864 for prizes to be awarded "to the owners of estates of not less than three acres in extent who shall lay out and plant them with the most rare and desirable ornamental trees and shrubs, in the most tasteful and effective manner, developing the capabilities of the loca-

tions in the highest degree, and presenting the most successful examples of science, skill, and taste, as applied to the embellishment of a country residence; the trees to be under the most thorough cultivation, the grounds in high keeping, and the prizes to apply equally in cases where proprietors take professional advice, as well as when acting on their own judgment in their improvements."

It is now so difficult to meet these requirements that the Medal is awarded only occasionally.

SPECIAL AWARDS AT THE FLOWER SHOWS

Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase—Given for the most outstanding exhibit at any of the Society's shows in the calendar year. From a fund of $10,000 established by Mr. Burrage in 1929. The cost of each vase is $1,000.

The President's Cup—Given for the most meritorious exhibit at the Spring Show. Offered and paid for by the President of the Society. Always the same size and pattern from a design selected by each President.

Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York—Offered and paid for by that Society since 1928. Given for the most beautiful exhibit at the Spring Show.

Gold Medal Certificate of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society—The certificate has been substituted for a gold medal since World War II. Given for the exhibit at the Spring Exhibition showing the highest standard of culture.

Trophy of the Massachusetts Deparment of Agriculture—Awarded since 1939. A silver bowl paid for by the Department and given at the Spring Show for the best exhibit staged by a commercial grower in Massachusetts.

Sarah Todd Bulkley Bronze Medal—Offered and paid for by the Garden Club of America since 1940. Given for an exhibit of special merit and/or for educational value.

Antoine Leuthy Prize—A Medal from a fund established by Mr. Leuthy in 1948. Given at the Spring Show for the best display of flowering or foliage plants.

Beacon Hill Garden Club Cup—A challenge or rotating cup engraved with the names of the winners and kept on display at Horticultural Hall. Offered since 1938 for the most charming garden club exhibit at the Spring Show.

George Holliday Memorial Prize—Cash, offered and paid for since 1945 by Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Stone for an exhibit of pot plants showing the highest standard of culture set up by a private gardener at the Spring Show. Paid to the gardener. May be withdrawn at any time. In memory of George Holliday, long superintendent on the Marion estate of the Stone family.

Crystal Vases—Society's prizes awarded for the best blooms at the Daffodil and Tulip Shows.

An Important Garden Book—Awarded by the Society for the best bloom at each Camellia Show.

New England Gladiolus Society Anniversary Prize—An illuminated Scroll awarded by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society at each exhibition of the Gladiolus Society for the best spike in the one spike open class.

The Beatrix Farrand Silver Bowl—Offered at the Spring Show for the best exhibit of rhododendrons or azaleas. A rotating or perpetual trophy presented by Mrs. Farrand in 1953. To be engraved each year and kept on display in Horticultural Hall.

ALBERT C. BURRAGE PORCH PRIZE AWARDS

Albert C. Burrage created a fund in 1929 for what has come to be known as the Burrage Porch Prize. It originally provided for a Gold Medal to be awarded for a porch erected in Massachusetts in the current year, but held as requirements that it must be added to a house already standing, that it must overlook a garden and that it should receive a generous amount of direct sunlight each day. After a time it became difficult to meet these requirements and the award was made only occasionally. Therefore, in 1951, the Board of Trustees voted to alter the terms of this fund, with the consent of the Burrage family, and as now phrased it may apply to a terrace, veranda or other addition to a home overlooking a garden and need not necessarily be constructed in the current year. The requirement that the new construction must be an addition to a house already built still stands.

Porch awards have been made as follows:
1929—Ben: Perley Poore Moseley, Ipswich.
1930—Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Robinson, Needham.
1931—Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Goodridge, Milton.
1932—Paul O. Nafe, Boston.
1935—Clifford Brown, Wellesley.
1936—Mrs. Charles S. Jenney, Brookline.
1938—Miss Alice G. Higgins, Newburyport.
1940—Mrs. Abbot Peterson, Brookline.
1951—Mr. and Mrs. Harold S. Ross, Hingham.
1952—Mrs. Chester N. Greenough, Belmont.
1953—Mr. and Mrs. William Febiger, Manchester.

GEORGE ROBERT WHITE MEDAL OF HONOR AWARDS

1909—Professor Charles S. Sargent, Director of the Arnold Arboretum.
1910—Jackson Thornton Dawson, plantsman of the Arnold Arboretum.
1911—Victor Lemoine, Nancy, France, originator of new varieties of flowering garden plants.
1912—Michael H. Walsh, Woods Hole, Mass., rose specialist.
1913—Park Commission of Rochester, N. Y., for tasteful landscape planting.
1914—Sir Harry James Veitch, London, England, nurseryman, for the propagation of ornamental garden plants.
1915—Ernest Henry Wilson, Boston, Mass., for botanical and horticultural work in China and Japan. Famous as a plant hunter.
1916—William Robinson, London, England, for educational work in horticultural literature.
1917—Niels Ebbesen Hansen, Brookings, S. D., for plant and fruit introductions in the northwestern states.
1918—Dr. Walter Van Fleet, Washington, D. C., for the production of new varieties of roses.
1919—Vilmorin-Andrieux et Cie, Paris, France, for the introduction of new varieties of plants and vegetables.
1920—Georges Forrest of England, for the introduction of new garden plants from China.
1921—Mrs. Louisa Yeomans King, Alma, Mich., for her work in popularizing gardening.
1922—Albert Cameron Burrage, Boston, for advancing interest in horticulture, especially in the cultivation of orchids.

1923—John McLaren, San Francisco, Calif., for the development of horticulture on the Pacific Coast.

1924—Joseph Pernet-Ducher, Venissieux-les-Lyons, France, for his work as a producer of valuable new roses.

1925—Professor Ulysses P. Hedrick, Geneva, N. Y., for the introduction of new fruits.

1926—Pierre S. duPont, Wilmington, Del., for extending the love of flowers, and for the establishment of a great Winter garden.

1927—Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey, Ithaca, N. Y., educator, author and editor.

1928—Colonel William Boyce Thompson, Yonkers, N. Y., for plant research work.

1929—Miss Gertrude Jekyll, England, amateur gardener and the author of many important books.

1930—David Grandison Fairchild, Washington, D. C., for seed and plant introductions.

1931—Dr. Frederick V. Coville, Washington, D. C., for horticultural research work, particularly with blueberries.

1932—W. A. Manda, South Orange, N. J., for his activity along horticultural lines, the introduction and dissemination of new and useful plants.

1933—J. Horace McFarland, for his work in placing horticulture in America on a high plane.

1934—Captain F. Kingdon Ward, British plant collector and explorer, for the introduction of new plants and for his books.

1935—Prof. Oakes Ames, Boston and North Easton, Mass. Noted botanist, orchid authority, director of Harvard University's horticultural and botanical collections.

1936—Harlan Page Kelsey, East Boxford, Mass. Nurseryman, horticultural authority, member of "Standardized Plant Names" committee, advisor to the National Park Service.

1937—Frederick Law Olmsted, Brookline, Mass. Leading landscape architect, whose work in developing public parks throughout the country had won him great distinction.

1938—Robert Moses, New York City. The award was for his remarkable work in developing the New York Park System, thus bringing horticulture closer to the people of his city.

1939—George T. Moore, St. Louis, Mo., director of the Missouri Botanical Garden which he had developed into one of the most notable institutions of the kind.

1940—Sir Arthur William Hill, director of the Royal Botanic Garden,

Kew, England, and a powerful influence on horticulture in that country.

1941—Prof. Frank A. Waugh, Amherst, Mass., emeritus professor of landscape architecture at Massachusetts State College, teacher, author.

1942—Jens Jensen, Ellison Bay, Wisconsin. Given in recognition of his great work as a landscape architect throughout the Middle West.

1943—Richardson Wright, New York, N. Y. Author, 30 years editor of *House and Garden,* chairman of the International Flower Show and influential in many organizations.

1944—Theodore Wirth, Minneapolis, Minn. Given for his remarkable work in developing public parks in Hartford, Conn. and in Minneapolis.

1945—William N. Craig, Weymouth. Private gardener and nurseryman. Given for a lifetime devoted to the improvement of horticulture in many fields.

1946—Dr. Elmer Drew Merrill, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Former director of the Arnold Arboretum and administrator of the botanical collections at Harvard University, authority on Philippine botany, one-time director of the New York Botanical Garden.

1947—Ernest F. Coe, Coconut Grove, Fla. Given for a lifetime devoted to the establishment of Everglades National Park.

1948—Lord Aberconway, president of the Royal Horticultural Society in London, and a man who had exercised an important influence on horticulture in England.

1949—Dr. Wilson Popenoe, director, Escuela Agricola Panamericana, Honduras. Given for his highly important work in improving and extending horticulture and agriculture in Latin America.

1950—William Hertrich, San Marino, Calif. Given in recognition of his ability as a landscape architect, and particularly his development of the beautiful Huntington Botanical Gardens.

1951—Sir William Wright Smith, Edinburgh, Scotland, director of the Royal Botanic Garden. He made this institution famous by growing there great numbers of the plants discovered by Ward, Rock and others in Western China.

1952—Dr. Albert Francis Blakeslee, Northampton, Mass. As a geneticist, he had drawn upon his vast knowledge to interpret scientific facts in a way that can be understood by the layman.

1953—Edward I. Farrington, Weymouth, Mass. Author, editor, secretary of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for 23 years.

ALBERT C. BURRAGE GOLD VASE AWARDS

1930—Albert C. Burrage, for a large group of orchids at the Spring Show.

1931—Bobbink & Atkins, for an exhibit of roses at the Spring Show.

1932—Mrs. Albert C. Burrage, for an exhibit of orchids at the Spring Show.

1933—Ralph Hancock, for a rock garden at the Spring Show.

1934—The Gardner Museum, for a modernistic arrangement of chrysanthemums at the Autumn Show.

1935—Jeré A. Downs, for the Cymbidium Beatrice.

1936—Mrs. Frederick F. Brewster, for a tulip garden at the Spring Show.

1937—Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield, for a chrysanthemum garden at the Autumn Show.

1938—Mr. and Mrs. Ben: Perley Poore Moseley, for an azalea garden at the Spring Show.

1939—Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Webster, for a chrysanthemum garden at the Autumn Show.

1940—Cherry Hill Nurseries, for a comprehensive exhibit of peonies, rhododendrons and azaleas at the June Show.

1941—Mrs. Galen L. Stone, for a group of acacias at the Spring Show.

1942—Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Van Beuren, for a lily garden at the Spring Show.

1943—L. Sherman Adams, for a group of orchids at the Spring Show.

1944—Albert A. Hulley, for a clematis garden at the Spring Show.

1945—Frost & Higgins Co., for a California Redwood scene at the Spring Show.

1946—Bay State Nurseries, Inc., for a Memorial Garden at the Spring Show.

1947—Sherman W. Eddy, for a Vermont covered bridge scene at the Spring Show.

1948—Alexander Irving Heimlich, for a ledge garden at the Spring Show.

1949—Harlan P. Kelsey, Inc., for an informal garden at the Spring Show.

1950—Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Stone, for an entrance planting of acacias at the Spring Show.

1951—Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames, for an informal azalea garden at the Spring Show.

1952—Breck's, for an informal garden at the Spring Show.
1953—Mrs. Edwin S. Webster, for a group of chrysanthemums at the Autumn Show.

JACKSON DAWSON MEMORIAL MEDAL AWARDS

1927—Lambertus C. Bobbink, Rutherford, N. J.
1928—T. D. Hatfield, Wellesley, Mass.
1929—Charles Sander, Brookline, Mass.
1930—William Anderson, South Lancaster, Mass.
1931—William Henry Judd, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
1932—Charles O. Dexter, Sandwich, Mass.
1933—E. G. Hill, Richmond, Ind.
1934—H. Harold Hume, Gainesville, Fla.
1935—H. M. Hovath, Mentor, Ohio.
1936—Robert M. Gray, Cienfuegos, Cuba.
1937—J. E. Spingarn, Amenia, N. Y.
1938—Joseph B. Gable, Stewartstown, Pa.
1939—Walter D. Brownell, Little Compton, R. I.
1940—Guy G. Nearing, Ridgewood, N. J.
1941—Frederick Huber Howard, Los Angeles, Calif.
1942—Henry T. Skinner, Chestnut Hill, Pa.
1943—Wilfrid Wheeler, Falmouth, Mass.
1944—Joseph Herbert Hill, Richmond, Ind.
1945—Walter B. Clarke, San Jose, Calif.
1946—Isabella Preston, Ottawa, Canada.
1947—Prof. M. A. Blake, New Brunswick, N. J.
1948—Prof. Harold B. Tukey, East Lansing, Mich.
1949—Prof. Richard Wellington, Geneva, N. Y.
1949—Prof. George Slate, Geneva, N. Y.
1950—Dr. Samuel L. Emsweller, Beltsville, Md.
1951—Dr. Walter E. Lammerts, La Canada, Calif.
1952—Arie F. den Boer, Des Moines, Iowa.
1953—Francis Meilland, Cap d'Antibes, France

THOMAS ROLAND MEDAL AWARDS

1927—Thomas Roland, Nahant, Mass.
1928—E. G. Hill, Richmond, Ind.
1929—Frank R. Pierson, Tarrytown, N. Y.

1930—Carl Purdy, Ukiah, Calif.
1931—J. D. Eisle, Philadephia, Pa.
1932—Dr. Walter G. Kendall, Atlantic, Mass.
1933—Lambertus C. Bobbink, Rutherford, N. J.
1934—William Kleinheinz, Elkins Park, Pa.
1935—William N. Craig, Weymouth, Mass.
1936—Elmer D. Smith, Adrian, Mich.
1937—Dr. A. B. Stout, New York, N. Y.
1938—Alex Cumming, Jr., Bristol, Conn.
1939—August Koch, Chicago, Ill.
1940—George Pring, St. Louis, Mo.
1941—C. J. van Bourgondien, Babylon, Long Island.
1942—Vincent L. DePetris, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.
1943—Edward Owen Orpet, Santa Barbara, Calif.
1944—Albert A. Hulley, Middleboro, Mass.
1945—Edmund F. Palmer, Vineland Station, Ontario.
1946—Thomas H. Everett, New York, N. Y.
1947—Eric Walther, San Francisco, Calif.
1948—Henry Kohankie, Painesville, Ohio.
1949—Montague Free, Brooklyn, N. Y.
1950—Jan de Graaff, Gresham, Ore.
1951—Prof. Alex Laurie, Columbus, Ohio.
1952—Dr. Victor A. Tiedjens, Marion, Ohio.
1953—Arnold Davis, Cleveland, Ohio.

H. H. HUNNEWELL MEDAL AWARDS

1870—Edward S. Rand, Jr., Dedham
1873—William Gray, Jr., Dorchester
1879—Francis B. Hayes, Lexington
1894—Nathaniel T. Kidder, Milton
1898—Mrs. David Nevins, South Framingham, Mass.
1899—Arthur F. Estabrook, Beach Bluff
1901—Oakes Ames, North Easton
1902—Charles H. Tenney, Methuen
1903—Henry H. Rogers, Fairhaven
1906—Mrs. John L. Gardner, Brookline
1907—Morton F. Plant, Groton, Conn.
1910—George E. Barnard, Ipswich
1911—Col. Harry E. Converse, Marion
1916—Walter Hunnewell, Wellesley

1923—Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Hunnewell, Natick
1924—Henry H. Richardson, Brookline
1925—Caleb William Loring, Manchester
1925—Bayard Thayer, Lancaster
1926—William S. Endicott, Danvers
1927—Frederick S. Moseley, Newburyport
1928—Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Crane, Jr., Ipswich
1929—Mrs. Gustavus D. Parker, Osterville
1930—Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Brandegee, Brookline
1931—Mr. and Mrs. John S. Ames, North Easton
1933—Mrs. Homer Gage, Shrewsbury
1934—Grenville Lindall Winthrop, Lenox
1935—Russell Tyson, North Andover
1937—Mrs. William Henson Baltzell, Dover
1938—Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey G. Whitney, Milton
1940—Mr. and Mrs. Clement S. Houghton, Chestnut Hill
1942—Mrs. William A. Parker, North Easton
1946—Mrs. R. Boyer Miller, Wenham
1949—Dr. George O. Clark, Newburyport

PORTRAITS, BUSTS AND VASES

The following is a complete list of the portraits and other paintings, the busts, and the vases at Horticultural Hall as of December 31, 1954:

PRESIDENTS PORTRAITS

H. A. S. Dearborn Roxbury 1829–34
Copied by Jane Stewart from a portrait painted by her father, Gilbert Stuart. Paid for by the Society May 1, 1861, $101.70. Restored after the fire of 1888 by Frederick E. Wright, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 20, 1889, $150.

Zebedee Cook, Jr. Dorchester 1835
Painted by Walter M. Brackett. Paid for by the Society, May 10, 1861, $75. Restored after the fire of 1888 by Frederick E. Wright. Paid for by the Society, December 26, 1889, $150. Restored by Walter M. Brackett, Boston, May 25, 1895, $25.

Elijah Vose Dorchester 1835–40
Painted by J. Harvey Young, Boston. Paid for by the Society, April 24, 1861, $100. Restored after the fire of 1888 by Frederick

E. Wright, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 14, 1889, $150. Restored by Walter M. Brackett, Boston. Paid for by the Society, May 25, 1895, $200.

Marshall P. Wilder — Dorchester — 1841–48
Painted by Jane Stuart, Boston. Paid for by the Society, April 12, 1861, $75. Restored after the fire of 1888 by E. T. Billings, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 4, 1889, $150.

Samuel Walker — Roxbury — 1849–51
Painted by Alonzo Hartwell, Boston. Paid for by the Society, April 13, 1861, $100. Restored after the fire of 1888 by Frederick E. Wright, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 14, 1889, $150.

Joseph S. Cabot — Salem — 1852–57
Painted by Walter M. Brackett, Boston. Paid for by the Society, April 1, 1861, $100. Restored by Walter M. Brackett, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 10, 1889, $200.

Josiah Stickney — Watertown — 1858
Painted by Alonzo Hartwell, Boston, 1861. Paid for by the Society.

Joseph Breck — Brighton — 1859–62
Painted by Henry C. Pratt, Boston. Paid for by the Society, April 8, 1861, $75. Repaired after the fire by Frederick E. Wright, Boston, June 14, 1889, $75.

Charles M. Hovey — Cambridge — 1863–66
Painted by Alonzo Hartwell, Boston, March 17, 1865. Paid for by the Society, $125. Frame and Tablet bought of Williams & Everett, Boston, May 19, 1865, $51.75. Restored after the fire of 1888 by Frederick E. Wright, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 20, 1889, $150.

J. F. C. Hyde — Newton — 1867–70
Painted by Alonzo Hartwell, Boston. Paid for by the Society, August 21, 1867, $125. Restored after the fire of 1888 by Jean Paul Selinger, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 1, 1889, $200.

William C. Strong — Brighton — 1871–74
Painted by Virgil Williams, Boston. Paid for by the Society, May 27, 1871, $200. Restored after the fire of 1888 by Jean Paul Selinger, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 1, 1889, $200.

William Gray, Jr. — Dorchester — 1878–79
Painted by J. Harvey Young. Paid for by the Society, December,

1878, $200, The portrait of William Gray, Jr. is not in the Hall, probably having been destroyed by the 1888 fire, but is included to keep the record straight. For an account of the fire see Benson's history.

Francis B. Hayes Boston 1880–84
Painted by E. T. Billings, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 4, 1889, $150. Frame made by Hastings & Davenport, September 30, 1886, $45.

John B. Moore Concord 1884–85
Painted by E. T. Billings. Paid for by the Society, May 18, 1886, $150. Restored after the fire of 1888 by E. T. Billings, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 4, 1889, $150.

Henry P. Walcott Cambridge 1886–89, 1904
Painted by Edward H. Barnard, Boston. Paid for by the Society, June 19, 1891, $200. Frame bought of J. Eastman Chase, Boston, $36.

William H. Spooner West Roxbury 1890–92
Painted by Miss Helen M. Hinds, Boston. Paid for by the Society, December 6, 1893, $200. Framed by George E. Davenport, Boston, $45. Portrait restored by Walter M. Brackett, Boston, May 25, 1895, $25.

N. T. Kidder Milton 1893–95
Painted by J. Harvey Young, Boston. Paid for by the Society, September 27, 1897, with frame, $560.

Francis Henry Appleton Peabody 1896–1900
Painted by Marie Danforth Page. Paid for by the Society, January 24, 1903, $200. Frame, $40.

O. B. Hadwen Worcester 1901–03
Painted by Henry E. Kinney of Worcester. Paid for by the Society, May 18, 1904, $100, including frame.

Arthur F. Estabrook Boston 1905–06
By Joseph DeCamp. Presented by the executors of the Estabrook Estate, 1925.

Stephen M. Weld Dedham 1907–10
By R .S. Merryman. Cost $250.

Charles W. Parker Boston 1911–12
Painted by his son, Charles S. Parker. Paid for by the Society, February 2, 1915, $250, including frame.

John K. M. L. Farquhar Boston 1913–15
Gift of the Horticultural Club of Boston. Presented December, 1925.

Richard M. Saltonstall Chestnut Hill 1916–1918
Painted by H. H. Brooks from an original. Presented by Richard Saltonstall, February 1953.

William Crowinshield Endicott Boston 1919–1920
Painted by Marie Danforth Page. Presented by Mrs. Endicott April, 1945.

Albert Cameron Burrage Beverly Farms 1921–1931
Artist unknown. Presented to the Society November, 1944.

Edwin S. Webster Chestnut Hill 1932–1944
Painted by Philip A. de Laszlo, November, 1925. Presented by Edwin S. Webster, April 1947.

MISCELLANEOUS PORTRAITS

Samuel Downer Dorchester
Councillor. One of the founders. Member of the fruit committee for many years. November 12, 1870. Presented by his son, Samuel Downer.

Cheever Newhall Dorchester
Treasurer. One of the founders of the Society. First treasurer. Vice-president for many years. September, 1869. Presented by the Massachusetts Agricultural Club.

Aaron D. Weld Boston
One of the earliest and most active members of the Society. Presented by friends, 1872.

Joseph H. Billings West Roxbury
Presented by friends, 1872.

Robert Manning Salem
Member. Councillor, 1841. Secretary, 1876–1902. Painted by H. E. Kinney, October 25, 1902. Paid for by the Society, $100.

Jacob W. Manning Reading
Painted by Henry Cook. Presented in 1923 by his sons: Warren H. Manning, William S. Manning, A. Chandler Manning, J. Woodward Manning, Benjamin F. Manning.

Edwin W. Buswell Malden
Chairman of Flower Committee, Treasurer, Librarian, Corresponding Secretary. Presented by friends.

Benjamin P. Cheney Boston
Member of Boston Finance Committee. Presented by friends.

H. Hollis Hunnewell West Needham
Vice-President, 1864–74. Presented by the family, 1904.

John Davis Williams French Boston
Presented by the family, 1902.

Benjamin V. French Boston
Councillor. Vice-President, 1840–57. Presented by his nephew, Benjamin V. French of Lynn, 1872.

Aaron Davis Williams Boston
Councillor. Presented by his son, Aaron D. Williams, 1872.

William Kenrick Newton
Councillor. One of the founders of the Society, member of the council and of the fruit committee. Presented by Marshall P. Wilder on behalf of a few gentlemen, March 4, 1871.

J. B. Russell Boston
Councillor. One of the founders of the Society taking an active part in its organization and afterwards acting as its general agent. Presented by Marshall P. Wilder on behalf of a few gentlemen, March 4, 1871.

Samuel Sweetzer Cambridgeport
Presented by his daughter, Miss H. F. W. Sweetzer, April, 1907.

Thomas Roland Nahant
Trustee of the Society. Painted by Leslie P. Thompson, 1933. Paid for from Thomas Roland Fund Interest. $500. Frame made by Walfred Thulin. $40.

Ernest H. Wilson Jamaica Plain
Trustee of the Society. Painted by Marie Page. 1933. Paid for from

the Jackson Dawson Memorial Fund Interest. $500. Frame made by Walfred Thulin. $45.

Jeré Arthur Downs Winchester
Trustee of the Society. Painted by Wilbur F. Noyes. Presented by the Downs Estate, March, 1945.

PAINTINGS BEQUEATHED TO THE SOCIETY

The late Nathaniel T. Kidder, who passed away in 1938 after serving many years in such capacities as president, a member of the Board of Trustees and chairman of the library committee of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, bequeathed four of his paintings to this organization. They are as follows:

Watercolor, 11 inches by 6¾ inches, of Flowers, by Alfred Parsons, in a narrow gilt frame.

Painting on canvas, 13½ inches by 17 inches, of Chrysanthemums in a greenhouse, by E. N. Fisher, in a narrow gilt frame.

Framed Watercolor, 37¼ inches by 19 inches, of a landscape with tall date palms, by H. R. Newman, in a wide gilt frame.

Framed Watercolor, 11½ inches by 8 inches, Sondannella and Crocus, by Teresa Hegg.

In addition to these paintings, Mr. Kidder left the Society approximately 300 books on horticulture and allied subjects and an outright bequest of $5,000 for the use of the library.

PAINTINGS OBTAINED BY GIFT

Opening of the Exhibition of the United States Agricultural Society in Boston, October, 1855. Marshall P. Wilder, President. Duplicate picture, also original, presented June, 1923, by his son, Edward B. Wilder.

Cereus giganteus, by Henry C. Pratt. Donated by L. M. Sargent, December 15, 1860. (Cactus found in the hot and arid regions of New Mexico.)

Woman in poppy field, by Francis Davis Millet, 1884. Presented in 1924 by Misses Marian Roby Case and Louisa Williams Case.

Group of fruit, by A. De Franchimont. Presented in 1924 by Misses Marian Roby Case and Louisa Williams Case.

Vase of roses. Presented in 1924 by Misses Marian Roby Case and Louisa Williams Case.

Lotus, Japanese Painting by K. Takahashi, Tokyo, 1901. Presented by Mrs. Clement S. Houghton, 1934.

BUSTS

Jacob Bigelow, M.D. 1837–1879
Presented by Charles O. Whitmore, 1872. (Full length portrait of Jacob Bigelow destroyed in the fire of 1888.)

Amos Lawrence
Presented to the Society by his son, Amos A. Lawrence, January, 1872.

John Lowell
By Bracket. Presented to the Society, January, 1872.

Theodore Lyman
By Henry Dexter. Paid for by the Society, June, 1852, $300, to commemorate the gifts of trust funds.

Francis Parkman
By Joseph Milmore. Paid for by the Society, February 17, 1876, $200.

Josiah Stickney
By Henry Dexter, 1863. Presented by Charles O. Whitmore.

Charles Sumner
Bought of P. Gariboldi, May 12, 1870, $35.

Daniel Webster
Bought of P. Gariboldi, May, 1870, $15.

C. O. Whitmore
By Joseph Milmore. Presented by the Massachusetts Agricultural Club, January, 1869.

Marshall P. Wilder
By Henry Dexter. Presented to the Society by Charles O. Whitmore, March, 1863.

VASES, ETC.

The two matched blue vases were presented by Josiah Bradlee, Boston, June 7, 1845.

The two small china vases (flowers and birds) were presented by George B. Jones, September 16, 1856.

The small china vase (dragon on side) was presented by George B. Jones, April 27, 1849.

The two large china vases (horses) were presented by Francis H. Appleton and Arthur F. Estabrook, January, 1901.

Two small decorated vases were bought at auction by the Society about 1880.

Two carved teak wood bases for the largest vases, gift of Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby, December 22, 1931.

Two large bronze vases. One glass display case, gift of Wilfrid Wheeler, June, 1937.

Two large blue vases, presented in memory of Samuel J. Goddard by Mrs. Samuel J. Goddard, May, 1949.

TRUSTEES FROM 1929

Name	Elected	Retired
Thomas Roland	1909	1929*
Edwin S. Webster	1917	1949*
Fred A. Wilson	1920	1931
William C. Endicott	1921	1936*
Mrs. Bayard Thayer	1921	1941*
Nathaniel T. Kidder	1922	1938*
John S. Ames	1922	——
Francis S. Appleton	1922	1939*
Marian Roby Case	1922	1944*
Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby	1922	1953
Arthur Lyman	1922	1928
George C. Thurlow	1922	1930
Henry P. Walcott	1922	1932*
Ernest H. Wilson	1922	1930*
Mrs. Homer Gage	1923	1938
Walter Hunnewell	1925	——
Albert C. Burrage	1925	1931*
Howard Coonley	1926	1935
Loring Underwood	1926	1930*
Robert C. Morse	1928	1928*
George Peabody Gardner Jr.	1929	1933
James Methven	1929	1932

* Members of the Board who died while in office.

Name	Elected	Retired
Robert G. Stone	1929	1942**
Samuel J. Goddard	1929	1948*
Harlan P. Kelsey	1930	1948
Joseph E. Chandler	1930	1936
Ernest B. Dane	1931	1936
Hugh Bancroft	1931	1933*
George Butterworth	1931	——
Albert C. Burrage, Jr.	1932	1934
Jeré A. Downs	1933	1935*
William Ellery	1933	1944
Harold S. Ross	1933	——
William Dexter	1934	1937
Winthrop L. Carter	1935	1938
Louis Agazzis Shaw	1936	1939
Charles K. Cummings	1936	1947
Mrs. Roger S. Warner	1936	——
Robert H. Roland	1937	1938**
Dr. Elmer D. Merrill	1938	1953
William P. Wolcott	1938	1944
Fletcher Steele	1939	1945
Winthrop L. Carter	1939	1943*
Mrs. John Gardner Coolidge	1940	1952
Aubrey B. Butler	1941	——
Dunbar Lockwood	1942	1945
Dr. George O. Clark	1943	——
A. Shaw McKean	1944	1948**
Ernest Hoftyzer	1944	1950
Paul Dempsey	1944	1946
George Lewis Jr.	1944	1952*
Richard C. Paine	1945	1946**
Mrs. William A. Parker	1945	——
William P. Wolcott	1946	1948*
Ray M. Koon	1947	1953
Stedman Buttrick	1947	——
George B. Cabot	1948	1952**
John Chandler	1948	1949
Seth L. Kelsey	1948	——
Dr. Ralph A. Van Meter	1949	——

* Members of the Board who died while in office.
** Resigned.

Name	Elected	Retired
Oliver Wolcott	1949	——
Ernest Borowski	1950	——
Albert C. Burrage	1951	——
Mrs. James Perkins	1952	——
Mrs. Edwin S. Webster	1953	——
Harold D. Stevenson	1953	——
Dr. Donald Wyman	1953	——
Edward Dane	1954	——

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